

# BUILDING KINGDOM MARRIAGES AND HOMES THAT CANNOT FAIL

Text: II Peter 1:1-11

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## Introduction:

- Jesus came to give abundant life – Satan comes to steal and destroy – John 10:10  
*“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”*
- If we follow God’s principles for godly living, we will demonstrate to the world marriages and families that reveal the character of Jesus Christ.
- Experiencing the abundance of God’s grace and peace is foundational to a family and marriage that cannot fail.

## HOW DO WE BUILD A MARRIAGE AND HOME THAT CANNOT FAIL?

### 1. **Depend** on God’s power – (Verse 3)

*“His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.”*

-Romans 8:38 says: *“We are more than conquerors”*

-Ephesians 3:20 says: *“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work with us.”*

-GOD IS ABLE TO HELP US IN THE MOST DIFFICULT FAMILY SITUATIONS (COMMUNICATION, INTIMACY, FINANCES). **GOD IS ABLE!!!!**

-**Summary:** How do we grow to depend on God’s power?

1. **Read God’s Word** – We need the knowledge of who God is so our faith will increase.
2. **Pray constantly** – Prayer should be as normal as the air we breath so that we are in a constant awareness of being in God’s presence—absolute dependency on God’s power.

## HOW CAN WE BUILD A MARRIAGE AND HOME THAT CANNOT FAIL?

1. **Depend on God’s Power**
2. **Claim** God’s promises - (Verse 4)

-We have numerous promises in God's word that can sustain us at every moment of the day.

-Philippians 4:13 – *"I can do everything through Him (Christ) who gives me strength"*

-Jeremiah 33:33 – *"Call unto me and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things."*

-David said, *"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."*  
*Psalms 119:11*

**Practical suggestions:** What are you struggling with in the family or marriage? Look for a promise from God's word and write it on a card and hang it up, put it in your car, on the refrigerator, so that you begin to respond according to God's word and not your flesh.

## HOW DO WE BUILD MARRIAGES AND FAMILIES THAT WILL NEVER FAIL?

1. **Depend on God's power**
2. **Claim God's promises**
3. **Grow** in godly qualities (Verses 5-7)

-*"Make every effort"* - The reason people excel in sports is that they make every effort to win. They make great sacrifice, exercise discipline, and have the prize in mind.

**(Here are the qualities)**

(1) – **Faith** – Faith is the foundation – Faith in Jesus Christ and every provision that comes with our salvation that we have been speaking about.

*Do we believe that God is bigger than our crisis?* We must begin to speak words of faith over our marriage or family. There is power in the words we speak—negative or positive. Is our home a faith-filled home by the words and actions we demonstrate?

(2) – **Add to faith** – **Goodness or virtue**

-This defines a quality of character

-Our homes and marriages must be filled with virtue that flows out of faith.

-BUT IT DOESN'T STOP HERE. We begin with faith, add virtue

(3) – **Add to virtue** – **Knowledge**

-Knowledge is the ability to make wise decisions

*Every moment of the day we are faced with decisions.* How will I react to a negative situation? How will I respond to my child's questions or requests? How can I build a better relationship with my spouse? How can we stretch our finances?

We begin with faith, add virtue, add knowledge

**(4) – Add to knowledge – Self-control**

-Many marriages die because of a lack of self-control. We need self-control to overcome temptation, to give appropriate responses when we talk to each other and when we discipline the children, and to take care of our bodies.

We begin with faith, add virtue, add knowledge, add self-control

**(5) – Add to self-control – Patience**

-Here the word patience carries the meaning of perseverance or endurance. This means that we have the ability to have joy and remain calm in the face of great trials.

-God shows patience toward us every day. Remember, we are growing in His character.

*We grow in it by trusting God's provision of grace, by repenting of our sins to each other when we fail, and by keeping our eyes on Jesus! It will be demonstrated in our actions and attitudes toward one another.*

We add to our faith, virtue, to virtue, knowledge, to knowledge, self-control, to self-control, patience

**(6) – and to patience – Godliness**

-This virtue represents a person who has a right relationship with God and also with their human relationships.

-Godliness signifies that we have a character that is the same when we worship God in church as when we are at home.

-Godliness is developed through building a close relationship with God and constantly depending upon the power of God to demonstrate God's character everywhere we go.

**Men:** Do we demonstrate a Godly character at work? At home? In how we speak to our wife? To our children?

**Women:** Do we demonstrate a Godly character in our attitudes? Are we always complaining? Are we nagging our children or our husband?

Faith, virtue, knowledge, self-control, patience, godliness,

**(7) – add to godliness – brotherly kindness**

-Do we show kindness one to another? This can be demonstrated in so many ways: Helping and encouraging one another; Always believing the best in the other person...

**(8) – add to brotherly kindness – love**

-The love here is AGAPE love – the love that only God can give helps us to love no matter what the situation.

*-True love must be demonstrated in action*

**Men** – Women spell love as *T.I.M.E.* Men want intimacy from their wife – They are like a microwave oven.

**Women** - respond to tenderness – a caring attitude – They are like a slow cooker.

-Love is a choice, not a feeling. There are times we don't feel like loving, but we love because Jesus demonstrated true love.

**Men**, God commands us to love our wives as Christ loved the church. This must be our highest goal in a marriage. We must cherish our wives.

**Women**, we are called to submit and respect our husbands. Our loving attitude toward them will draw positive qualities out of them.

**WHAT IS THE RESULT OF GROWING IN THESE GODLY QUALITIES?**

- (Verse 8) – They will keep us from being ineffective and unproductive.

**WHAT IS THE RESULT OF NOT GROWING IN THESE QUALITIES?**

- (Verse 9) – Nearsighted, blind, and forget that we have been cleansed from sin.

**CONCLUSION:**

How do we build marriages and homes that will never fail? (verse 10)

1. **DEPEND ON GOD'S POWER (v3)**
2. **CLAIM GOD'S PROMISES (v4)**
3. **GROW IN GODLY CHARACTER (v5-8)**

**Result:**

1. **We will never fail. (v10)**
2. **We will receive a rich welcome in the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (v11)**

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