



Singing THE MUSIC OF MARRIAGE

If there were only one note in every song you listened to, would the music be that good? Probably not. It would be labeled as dull or monotonous. Instead, the beauty of music comes from the blending of many notes in a way that inspires or soothes the soul. In each song, the notes are strategically placed, the keys carefully selected, and the tempo rightly set to take notes from simple sounds to a spectacular symphony. If you want to create chaos in a choir, tell each person to sing a different song. But if you want there to be melody, harmony, and rhythm, each person needs to sing the same song, sing different parts that harmonize and sound good together, and sing at the same tempo. God's design for music is very similar to His grand design for marriage. In this challenge, we will learn about how spouses can sing the music of marriage together.



Day One: **God Composed the Music of Marriage**

“God created us differently so that He might make us one. We aren’t just created to sing in unity; we were also made to make beautiful music through harmony.”

ADRIAN ROGERS

God composed the song that husband and wife are created to sing. His grand design for the music of marriage started when He created man and woman. He created us differently that He might make us one. Men and women are different. And we don’t need the Bible to tell us that. Our differences are not just physiological, they are also deeply emotional and spiritual.

Here are some differences between man and woman, according to how God created them.

- **God made the man to be a provider and God made the woman to be a helper.**
- **The man is to be the protector while the woman is to be the nurturer.**
- **God made men to be the leaders and women to be the enhancers.**

This was God’s original design. He purposefully and thoughtfully organized things to work well in this way. When men and women live by God’s design, things go so much better.

Here are some tendencies that differ between men and women. These are not set in stone but may help you understand the ways husband and wife deal with things in life.

- **Men tend to be physically stronger than women.**
- **Men approach problems head-first while women approach problems heart-first.**
- **Men are more success-oriented while women are more security-oriented.**
- **Men are most concerned about their work and women are most concerned about their relationships.**
- **Men tend to look at the big picture while women tend to look at the details.**
- **Women tend to be sensitive while men tend to be less so.**
- **Men tend to be suspicious while women tend to be more trusting.**

Why did God make us so different? Why create men and women to be so unlike each other? God created us differently so that He might make us one. We aren’t just created to sing in unity; we were also made to make beautiful music through harmony. How do we sing the same song? The man must sing one part and take the lead. Then, the woman will sing another part that harmonizes with her husband. That’s simply God’s plan.

When Joyce lives in the beautiful way that God created her to live and I do too, we make amazing music. We need each other, we complement each other, and together the music of our marriage is sweet. That’s the way God designed it to be. Dear friends, the home is not a duet, it’s a trio, a man, a woman, and Jesus Christ.

A Prayer for Our Homes:

Father God, I pray in the name of Jesus that You would give us godly Christian homes. Thank you, Lord, that You made us different, that you might make us one. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.



Day Two: **How Men Can Lead in the Melody of Marriage**

“Dating and courtship should not end with the marriage ceremony. You need to turn up the heat and keep pursuing your wife.”

ADRIAN ROGERS

In order to sing the melody of marriage, men must lead well. We are experiencing the failure of men to lead as God created them to lead. Just think about things like the divorce epidemic, homosexuality, sexual abuse, promiscuity, social awkwardness, emotional distress, and suicide. Honestly, I think primarily, we must lay the blame at the feet of the men. But how can men step up to the challenge? How can men know if they are in fact leading well? There are five things men must do to course-correct and lead as God intended them to lead.

- 1. Men must assume responsibility.**
- 2. Men must deeply love their wives.**
- 3. Men must protect their wives from emotional trauma.**
- 4. Men must make their wives feel secure.**
- 5. Men must take the initiative.**

Men, hear what I am saying. God made us different that He might make us one. But God gave you one nature and God gave your wife another nature. God gave you masculinity and God gave you the responsibility that you are to assume. You may give your wife authority, but you can never get rid of your responsibility. Be sure to let your wife know that she is number one. And once you let your wife know that she is number one, you move in to protect your wife from those internal traumas. Seek to present her without spot or wrinkle, to make her a more radiantly beautiful Christian. And then, my dear friend, once you have done that, you move in to encourage her, that is to nourish her and to cherish her. And it is up to you, sir, to take the initiative. All of us, including this preacher, are going to have to begin to practice what God’s Word has said, that there might be harmony in the home.

A Prayer for Our Homes:

Father God, I just pray that you would help us to understand what is important. Lord God, that we would not see money as a goal but as a tool, and that we will not sacrifice our families to gain money or time, but that we might sacrifice money, time, or anything else for the goal of a Christian home that glorifies You. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.



Day Three: **When There's Too Much Stress on the Instruments**

"I think one of the major obstacles to the 'music of marriage' is tension in the home."

ADRIAN ROGERS

Consider the words of Proverbs 15:13-22

A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance, but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken. The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness. All the days of the afflicted are evil, but he who is of a merry heart has a continual feast. Better is a little with the fear of the LORD, than great treasure with trouble. Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a fatted calf with hatred. A wrathful man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger allays contention. The way of the lazy man is like a hedge of thorns, but the way of the upright is a highway. A wise son makes a father glad, but a foolish man despises his mother. Folly is joy to him who is destitute of discernment, but a man of understanding walks uprightly. Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.

I want you to notice some words in this passage of Scripture:

- **Sorrow**
- **Afflicted**
- **Trouble**
- **Hatred**
- **Strife**

Now all these words are synonyms for strife, tension, and stress. All of these are characteristic of times when the fiddle string gets too tight. As I've studied, I've discovered that when the violin string is not tight enough, the music is flat and dull. But if the string is too tight, the music is shrill and high-pitched. And if the string is even tighter yet, the string will snap. Honestly, I think one of the major obstacles to the "music of marriage" is tension in the home. Stress is related to raising your voice, raising your pulse, and raising your children. Now not all stress is bad. It takes a certain tension to make the violin play at all. You've got to have some stress in life. However, too much stress is dangerous to the home.

So, I want to give you four ways to relieve the stress in your home, based on Proverbs 15.

1. **Learn to laugh. (Proverbs 15:13)**
2. **Cultivate contentment. (Proverbs 15:16-17)**
3. **Alleviate anger. (Proverbs 15:18)**
4. **Walk in wisdom. (Proverbs 15:21-22)**

I believe we often think that we have strife because we have so many problems. But everybody has problems. Every family has issues. However, families that deal with problems the right way and learn to attack the problems and not one another can succeed. Try to understand the other people. Try to see it from their viewpoints. Listen to your children's viewpoints. Try to sit where the children sit. See it through their eyes. Empathize. Sympathize. Understand.

Proverbs 15 reminds us to learn to laugh. Cultivate contentment. Alleviate anger. Walk in wisdom. If you don't do these things, then the string is going to snap, and the music will be over.

A Prayer for Our Homes:

Father, thank you for Your Word that's so precious. Lord, I pray that You'll put the music back in our marriages, the melody back in our homes, and the wisdom back in our walks. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Day Four: **The Father is the Leader of the Band**

“Dads, if there’s going to be the music of marriage in your home, you’re going to have to see that God made you the leader of the band.”

ADRIAN ROGERS

If there is to be music in the home, the father must be a good leader. Indeed, he must be the leader of the band. Let’s consider what Psalm 128:1-6 has to say about fatherhood:

Blessed is every one who fears the LORD, who walks in His ways. When you eat the labor of your hands, you shall be happy, and it shall be well with you. Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the very heart of your house, your children like olive plants all around your table. Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD. The LORD bless you out of Zion, and may you see the good of Jerusalem all the days of your life. Yes, may you see your children’s children. Peace be upon Israel!

If you’d like to double your joy, then you will want to seek to be the kind of dad that the Bible says that you ought to be and need to be. I want to share five ways that you can be a great dad. These are truths from the Word of God, and they are the standard for us to follow.

1. Dads must live with character.

Awesome dads are those who have the kind of character that fears God. As a result of this fear of God, these dads will walk in God’s ways and live for God. There is nothing more important than your integrity and your honor. You may fail in a lot of ways as a dad, but if you will fear God, you will impact your kids.

2. Dads must learn contentment.

Truly, there’s something very wonderful about honest work. There’s something very wonderful about providing for your family and coming home and enjoying what God has given. Do you know what the problem is with many dads? They are simply not content. There is never enough.

3. Dads must love their wives.

A husband is to be to a wife what a wall or fence is to a vine. He is to be the support. He is to have that rock-like strength. And she is to have that tenderness. The wife is to cling to him alone. She is to be a faithful and fruitful wife.

4. Dads must lead their kids.

Wise is the dad who understands therefore that it is his duty and privilege to cultivate his wife’s love and her needs, and to cultivate his children and their needs. Dads are so significant in the home! We live in a day in which it’s easier to make money than it is to be a daddy. We hire professionals to do for us what we ought to do for ourselves. Our kids don’t need professionals to raise them. They need dads. They need you! Better an amateur dad than any professional you can pay.



5. Dads must leave a contribution.

Look in Psalm 128:4-6, “Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD. The LORD bless you out of Zion, and may you see the good of Jerusalem all the days of your life. Yes, may you see your children’s children. Peace be upon Israel!” Oh, what a blessing that would be—your children’s children, your grandchildren, serving the Lord. Isn’t that what you want?

Faithful fathers lead by having integrity and good character, by being content, by loving their wives, and by leading their children. Dads, if there’s going to be the music of marriage in your home, you’re going to have to see that God made you the leader of the band.

A Prayer for Our Homes:

Father God, I pray that You will bring this message home. God, give us better fathers. And we thank you Lord that we know that You can give us a fresh start. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.



Day 5: **The Mother is the Conductor of the Band**

“Do you know what America desperately needs? Some good, old-fashioned homes. I believe you will do more by raising godly children than by almost anything else you might do.”

ADRIAN ROGERS

God’s design is for women to be excellent keepers of the home. They were created for it, and they can excel at it. Truly, it is a noble and respectable job. God idealizes that woman as a mother and a homemaker. With that in mind, let’s just take [Proverbs 31](#) apart verse by verse.

1. **A mother’s great worth**

Look at Proverbs 31:10-12, “Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies. The heart of her husband safely trusts her; so he will have no lack of gain. She does him good and not evil all the days of her life.” This woman is going to be wise, she’s going to be loyal, and she’s going to be prudent. She will do her husband good. She will treat him well. He can truly trust her. This is her great worth.

2. **A mother’s good work**

Read Proverbs 31:13-14, “She seeks wool and flax, and willingly works with her hands. She is like the merchant ships, she brings her food from afar.” The New American Standard translates Proverbs 31:13 in this way. Not only does this woman do all of these things willingly, but, “she does it in delight.” It is her delight to do it because she is doing it as unto the Lord. The mother is to be a woman of good work and good works.

3. **A mother’s godly worship**

She is a woman of godly worship. Notice Proverbs 31:15. As I read this in the Amplified Bible, I found something very interesting. “She rises while it is yet night, and gets through communion with her God, spiritual food for her household.” The truth of this verse is, I believe, that she is getting up to have a quiet time with the Lord. We are told in Proverbs 31:30 that she fears the Lord. What a gift to be married to a woman who loves the Lord! The conductor of the home, the mom, blesses her entire household when she gets up early to have quiet time with the Lord. Her early moments in Bible study and prayer can impact her (and every member of her family) for good.

4. **A mother’s generous ways**

Look at Proverbs 31:19-20, “She stretches out her hands to the distaff, and her hand holds the spindle. She extends her hand to the poor, yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy.” This woman cares about others and their needs. She has skills. She reaches out to those in need. And what an impact that must have made on her children!



5. **A mother's gifted wifehood**

This woman has a great relationship with her husband. Consider Proverbs 31:23-25, "Her husband is known in the gates, when he sits among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies sashes for the merchants. Strength and honor are her clothing; she shall rejoice in time to come." To her husband, the wise wife is a helpmeet. She enhances him and makes his life better. Because this woman does what she does, this husband can do what he does. She helps him to succeed. She builds him up. She greatly contributes to his success.

6. **A mother's gracious words**

Look at Proverbs 31:26-27, "She opens her mouth with wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness. She watches over the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness." A virtuous woman will have control of her own tongue. She will open her mouth with wisdom. Kindness is on her tongue. This lady will not be screaming at her kids or whining at her husband. Why not? Because she got up early to spend time with the Lord, her heart is at peace, and she can live a well-ordered life.

7. **A mother's glowing witness**

If you look in Proverbs 31:28-31, you read, "Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: 'Many daughters have done well, but you excel them all!' Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, but a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her own works praise her in the gates." She has been a witness to her children, who rise up and show her honor. I don't think there can be any greater reward than this—than to have your children honor your walk with Jesus. In addition to being honored by her children, this woman is also praised by her husband. Not only does the virtuous woman's family praise her, but the community gives witness to her character as well.

A Prayer for Our Homes:

Father God, I pray that You would raise up women who will seek after You. Lead moms and grandmoms to pray, read the Bible, and fall in love with Jesus. Then, empower them to love their husbands and their children. Give them wisdom, insight, and grace. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Day 6: **Tuning Up Tired Marriages**

“Sometimes marriage that starts as an ideal then becomes an ordeal, and then we are looking for a new deal.”

ADRIAN ROGERS

Many do not have a magnificent marriage. Many do not even have a mediocre marriage. Many have a miserable marriage. When you feel the artillery of Hell aimed at your home, it doesn't mean that you are doing something wrong. It may mean that you are doing something right and that the devil is trying to stop it.

Let's look at Ephesians 5:22-33.

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. 28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. 30 For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. 31 “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

From this passage, we can pull instructions for both husbands and wives on how to love each other and tune up our marriages.

Men can tune up their marriages by:

- Tuning up leadership (v. 23)
- Tuning up love (v. 25)
- Tuning up loyalty (v. 30-31)

Women can tune up their marriages by:

- Tuning up submission (v. 22)
- Tuning up support (v. 30)

What does the husband owe to the wife? He owes her love. He owes her, dear friend, leadership, and he owes her loyalty. What does the wife owe to the husband? A submissive relationship, a supporting relationship, and a sharing relationship. Try it, I promise you on the authority of the Word of God, it will put music in your marriage. And it'll tune up a tired marriage.

A Prayer for Our Homes:

Father God, I pray that You would help us to learn what Your Word says. Lord, I pray that husbands and wives together today would just commit themselves to You and to the relationships You want us to build. In Jesus' Name, Amen.