



Strong, Happy, Fulfilling Marriages (continued)

Last week we talked about the need for a positive attitude in building a strong, happy and fulfilling marriage.

A second need is for people to live in the present and push toward the future rather than living in the past. In Luke chapter 9, beginning at verse 57, Jesus speaks about those who would follow him. He gives warnings in this text concerning the sacrifices that will need to be made. The conclusion of this discussion has Jesus saying “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the Kingdom of God” (vs 62) In the same way a marriage is often hurt by continually looking back. There are two problems with the backward look.

First, if and when harder times come, things in the past often look better than they really were. Many (most) people marry with stars in their eyes and wearing coloured glasses. These are usually times of excitement, new experiences and encouragement from family and friends. If down the road of life “potholes” are experienced it is easy to look back and focus on those happy carefree days. Secondly, hurts and failures of the past may often be “raked up” when times of disagreement and stress come.

Remembering the past, as a learning experience to help strengthen the bonds of the present, is well and good. However, far too often, living in the past is for the purpose of pointing out the weaknesses of the present and leads to disharmony and unhappiness. To the comment made earlier regarding the maintenance work in marriage being done on earth can be added, “It needs to be done in the present”.

A final suggestion for this time is that the marriage relationship needs to be built on a good set of goals. Goals help to establish the purpose of any relationship or combined effort. Goals make it possible to focus on direction as well as measure success. In speaking of living the Christian life, Paul makes the comparison of competing in the games and the necessity of strict training. “Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air” (I Corinthians 9:26). In competing in the games, one has a goal and moves toward it. To succeed one may need to practice several disciplines to accomplish success.

One concern of the person in the games, as well as persons in the “game” of marriage, is to be sure not to set too many goals. Priorities must be established so the work toward completing them is doable. If couples do not work together in setting priorities, failure is assured because of divided efforts. Prayerful and thoughtful consideration is necessary. Of course, the goals have to be attainable or they become a source of continued strife and division.

I pray these thoughts will be helpful to you in building a strong, happy, fulfilling marriage.

STRATHMORE

SEARCHLIGHT



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STRATHMORE BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible School 9:45 AM
Worship 11:00 AM
Worship 6:00 PM
Spanish Worship 3:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 PM

ELDERS

Peter Dwomoh
Steve Gill
Marvin Johnson
Jean Volcy

DEACONS

Kwabena Akuoko
Ed Brown
Gerald Ellis
Moises Velasco

EVANGELISTS

ENGLISH
Max Craddock
Marlon Molina
SPANISH
Santiago Molina

2010 Theme:

“Walking in the Light - 1 John 1:5-10”



THURSDAYS 7:30 a.m.
The Grace TV
Rogers - Channel 241
Star Choice - Channel 399

FRIDAYS 8:30 a.m.
The Vision Network
Rogers - Channel 60
Star Choice - Channel 394
Bell ExpressVu - Channel 65



Welcome to our worship
at Strathmore!

Events Coming This Summer

SPEAKERS TODAY:

Marlon and **Santiago** are speaking this morning; **Max** will deliver the evening message at 6pm service.

OSHAWA: **Isaac Persaud** in am and **Steve Chubry** at pm services.

STATS FOR LAST WEEK:

Sunday AM/PM :	211/34
Wednesday:	37
Contributions :	
Congregation:	\$ 3204.32
Key:	\$ 80.00
Missions:	\$ 455.00

Scheduled to Serve

July 4, 2010

PRESIDER: Edmund N

PRAYER:.....Kofi N

READER:Froilan U

CLOSING PRAYER:Bonifacio P

SONG LEADER: Eldon B

Passing emblems in June:
Gyimah D, Bonifacio P, Leo R, Jessie S,
Hayden J



Wednesday evenings: **Steve Gill** is teaching a Conversational English Bible class. Anyone who wishes to join the class to study while improving their English skills is encouraged to attend.

Men 's Class and business meeting has been set for Saturday, July 10 starting at 7 PM. All the men are encouraged to be here for the study and the business meeting to follow.

Card Shower: "There is a surprise card shower for **Muriel Thompson's 90th birthday** on July 6th. If you would like to send her a card, please send it to: Mrs. H.F. Thompson 15 Hepburn Ave. St. Thomas, ON N5R 4J4."

Two families will be missed: **Emerson and Silmara Guimaraes** and their son **Nicolas**, moved yesterday to live in Thunder Bay. On Wednesday, **Sudheer and Hemalatha Vundru**, who have been working here for a year, will be moving back to India. We have appreciated these two couples and pray for God's rich blessings on them in the future.



20's Weekend at Camp Omagh: July 2 to 4 - Theme: *The Christian Mission* - Speaker: Gregory Toohey . This will be a fantastic time of fellowship with 20's from across Ontario. Have fun swimming, playing sports, mini-golfing, hiking or just hanging out. For the last few years the weekend has included a service project, this year will be no different. We will be helping to run activities for the sing-spiration hymn sing and picnic that will be at camp on July 4th. The cost of the weekend is \$40. If you can't make it out for the whole weekend, consider visiting for an evening or for Sunday morning service. For more information, or a registration form, visit www.campomagh.org

Old Fashioned Hymn Sing, Picnic and Activities day at Camp Omagh, July 4, 3 – 8:30 PM with singing at 7 PM. This sounds like a good time of fellowship and praise. (See the Gospel Herald, June issue – page 13 for all the details.)

Santos Molina is to have a heart valve surgery in the near future + **Anitha**, a friend of Sudheer and Hemalatha, who is 9 months pregnant and suffering with a brain tumour + **Mrs Finni Sr.**, mother in law of Kim Rentola Finni, had a fall requiring stitches in her lip and chin and also cracked her wrist + **Mrs Ravindram**, a parent from Three Fishes Christian Elementary School with health problems requiring surgery + Sister **Florentina Valenzuela** is having some health problems and is not able to get around very well + **Greg Walciem** was in hospital but is back home and feeling better + **Vivien Robinson**, mother of **Mark**, is in hospital and was feeling better after treatment on Friday + **Joey Kearns** is still waiting for results from tests on the mass in his lung + **Brenda Lawrence**, mother of **Bob**, is suffering with ill health at this time + **Joseph Lee's mother** is having health problems + **David Noble**, a nephew of Karen, a friend of Cledith and Max, who is having cancer treatment + **Sophie**, less than 2-y.o. child of Pauline's friend, who is diagnosed with leukemia + **Maxine**, sister of Anne Marie, for health problems + **Daisy Verceles**, mother of Joanne Untalasco, undergoing cancer treatment + **Hildebrando Rodriguez** + **Jenn**, a friend of Julia + **Ellen David** + **Blanche Maddeaux** + **Maggie Lim**, Swee-Teen's mother + **Mavis Stonefield** + **Erasto Fuentes**, May Razon's father + **Deirdre Etienne**, and her mother + **Miram's family** + **Pranvera Bimbli**, and her daughter, **Linda Laurasi** + **Ron Saddington**