

A Magazine For Your Spiritual and Physical Well-Being

MATURE

Spiritually

**SANAA
LATHAN'S
SPIRITUAL
SIDE**

NOT
WHERE
YOU
WANT
TO BE
IN LIFE?

EVERY-
BODY
DOES
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**MO'NIQUE'S
WEIGHT
LOSS
SECRETS**

**STOP
SMOKING
FOR GOOD**

NOT
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HEALTHY
SALADS

**MEN AND
WOMEN'S
FASHION**



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KINGDOM MARRIAGE

BY H.S. MIINISTRIES

It's amazing how we think that once we have that dream wedding and marry the "man or woman of our dreams," they will sweep us off our feet and we'll live "happily ever after." Well, we may live "happily ever after," but it's probably nothing like we've ever imagined.

Before I got married, I imagined my husband sweeping me off my feet like Cinderella. He would search throughout the world looking for me. Once he'd find me, he'd be so taken away by my beauty that he would just fall head over hills in love with me. Then we'd embrace one another and run off into the sunset together. When this did not happen, I was really let down. I wanted so badly to find "the man of my dreams." I had very high expectations of what I wanted and expected in a "soul mate." I just knew there was someone out there for me that was everything I wanted. About a few months later, I saw him across a crowded room and there he was. The rest is history. Twenty-four years later and almost 20 years of marriage, I can truly say that we

are well on our way to "Kingdom Marriage." And it is far from the "Cinderella story" I imagined.

My heart's desire and prayer is that you will be able to hear within your spirit the words spoken to bring you hope and help you see the things that your heart truly desires. I am very excited to be able to share what I have gone through in my own marriage and what the Lord did to turn things around.

I am proud to say that in this crazy and damaging world today, I will be celebrating my 20th wedding anniversary this year. Only by God's grace is this possible. I am so blessed that He helped my husband stay strong to "stick with it" and not quit. I am truly the luckiest woman alive. It was not always like this. I can honestly say that I have been married for 20 years, but truly happily for only the last 6. Our God is so good. I cannot tell you how many times I had to hold onto the promise that He gave me in Psalm 37:4-5; "Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass." (NKJV).

My marriage went like this. "God I feel like I am the only one that has to do everything. Why can't he help me? God get him! I cannot believe this. Look at what he is doing! Can you fix him?"

It was all about me, I thought. Nagging was not getting me anywhere. It was only pushing him further away. How am I ever going to be able to survive? I am so sick and tired of the fighting. I feel as though I am being suffocated and all I need



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The Word says **"A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." – Proverbs 15:1. "Better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and angry woman." – Proverbs 21:19.** Wow! I was causing my husband to avoid me. He never wanted to be around me. He absorbed all of his time into our kids. But I thank God my husband is an amazing father to our kids and that he did not give up on our family. So, **I had to pray often for the Lord to show me how to become the biblical woman, wife and mother He wanted me to be. I had to ask the Lord to show me His love for my husband because I wasn't getting it.**

Over time, as I continued with those prayers, focusing on the Lord and allowing the Lord to examine my heart, I started to see my heart transforming. I was actually finding some peace and falling in love all over again with my husband, my "Mighty Man of God". The Lord not

only started to work on my heart, but I recognized something changing in my husband. He started to want to be around me. He even told me I was beautiful, more than once. Over time the Lord brought us into an unity of one with Him. Do we have it perfected? Absolutely not. But the difference is that the Lord is our glue. He is the center of our marriage and family. We are the luckiest parents alive. Our boys are now teenagers and love spending time at home with us. We do things together as a family and my Man is an amazing influence in their lives for the Lord. They have beautiful and caring hearts. And are both very wise and love the Lord.

By the grace of God I fell all over again in love with the man of my dreams. The key to having a "Kingdom Marriage," is to get out of God's way and pray for that man or woman in your life. Learn how to love them for who God created them to be. Stop trying to change them into who you think they should be. **"I have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in right paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hindered, and when you run, you will not stumble. Take firm hold of instruction, do not let go."** (Proverbs 4:11-13 (NKJV).

is another day of bad news. I cannot handle the loss of a job. I cannot handle the fact that I have to do this all by myself. I feel like he expects me to do everything. I cannot even get my husband to support me. He won't even come and talk to me. I feel as though I am going to explode and cannot make it another day. How can I do everything? I always have to be the responsible one. I have to take care of the kids. Can't he do anything?

Can any of you relate to this? Rarely did a day go by that I wasn't unhappy and yelling at him and our kids. I kept thinking that I could change him.

While in prayer one day, the Lord touched my heart. I concluded that I needed to stop worrying about what my husband was not doing and focus on myself and Christ. My husband is exactly where he is destined to be right now in Christ. God has to be the one to transform him into the man He created him to be, rather than what I think he should be.



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If you would like prayer or support or interested in reading the full story of how the author survived, visit www.hsjeshuaministries.org.

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