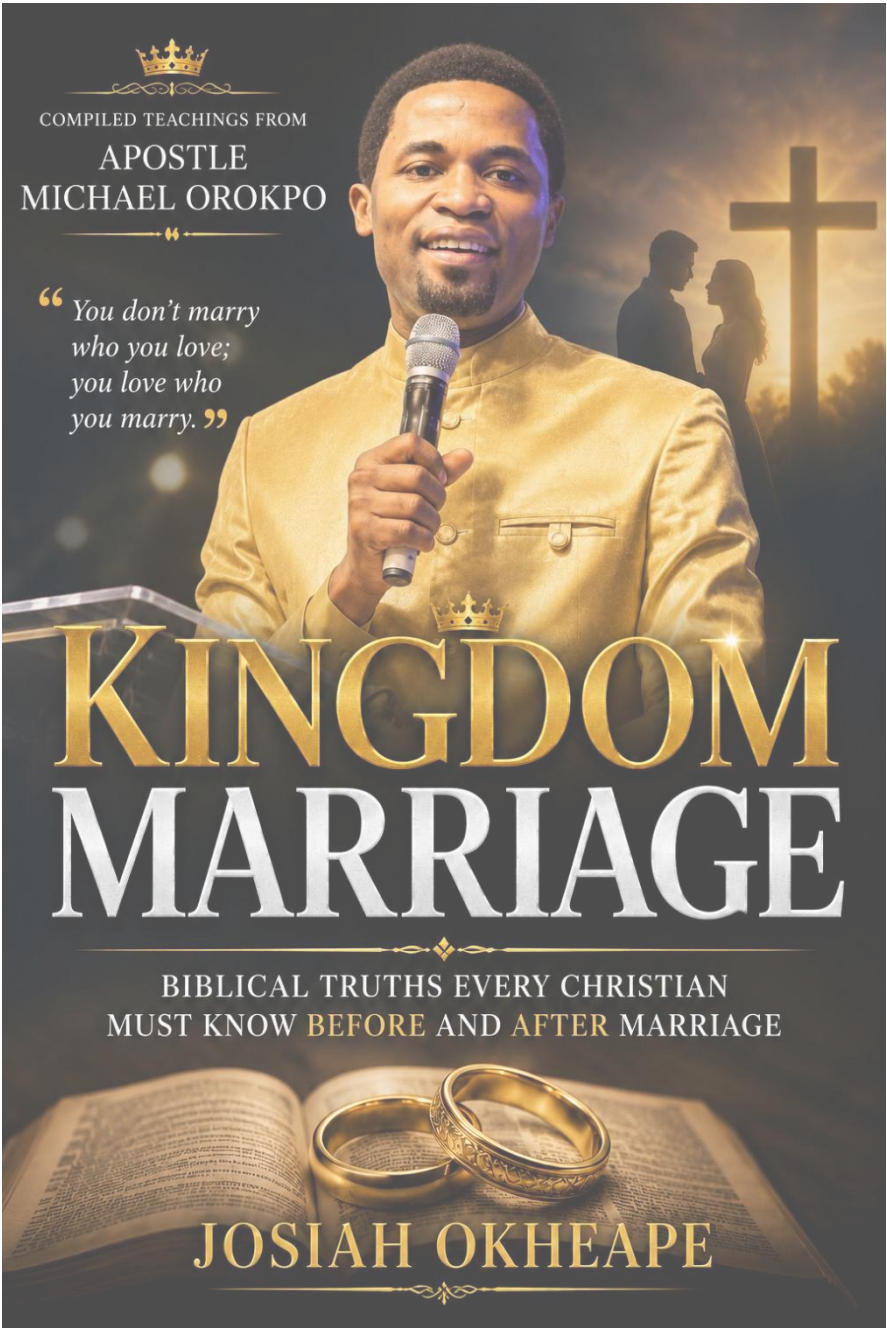




COMPILED TEACHINGS FROM
APOSTLE
MICHAEL OROKPO

*“ You don’t marry
who you love;
you love who
you marry. ”*

KINGDOM MARRIAGE

BIBLICAL TRUTHS EVERY CHRISTIAN
MUST KNOW **BEFORE** AND **AFTER** MARRIAGE



JOSIAH OKHEAPE

Kingdom Marriage

*Biblical Truths Every Christian Must Know Before and After
Marriage*

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Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the bible.

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Acknowledgements

To God, the Author of Covenant

You are the first Husband. You are the pattern. You established marriage before sin entered the world, and You preserved it through the blood of Your Son. Thank You for designing a union that reveals Your glory. Without Your grace, this mystery remains hidden. With it, homes become Eden again.

To Apostle Michael Orokpo

Sir, you are not just a teacher; you are a sentinel. You speak what others avoid. You expose the lie of emotion and call us back to the ordinance. This book is not my work; it is the harvest of your labor. You have endured the heat of itinerant ministry to release this revelation. I am grateful for your courage, your fire, and your refusal to compromise the standard.

Thank you for teaching us that marriage is not about who we *feel*, but about who we *serve*. This generation is better because you stood and spoke.

To the Encounter Jesus Ministries Family

Thank you for stewarding this apostolic voice. Your labor creates the platform for these truths to reach the nations.

To My Readers

May you not read this book for information. May you encounter the One who wrote marriage in the first place.

Introduction

More Than a Feeling: The Great Mystery of Marriage

Marriage is in crisis.

Around the world, divorce rates are climbing. In some nations, millions of marriages end every single year. What was once considered sacred is now treated as disposable. What was once a covenant is now seen as a contract.

But the problem is not marriage itself. The problem is our understanding of it.

Most people approach marriage from the wrong foundation. They build on emotion, attraction, and compatibility. These things are not bad. But they are not enough. They are too fragile to carry the weight of a covenant.

Apostle Michael Orokpo has spent years teaching the deeper truths of marriage. His message is counter-cultural. It challenges the assumptions of modern relationships. It calls believers back to God's original design.

This book distills his teachings into a clear, practical guide. It is not about feelings. It is about truth. It is not about romance. It is about covenant. It is not about happiness first. It is about holiness first.

Why This Book Exists

You may be single, preparing for marriage. You may be married, struggling to keep your home together. You may be a leader, looking for answers to help others.

Wherever you are, this book is for you.

The teachings in these pages come from a deep study of Scripture and decades of spiritual insight. They are not popular. They are not politically correct. They are true.

The Apostle Paul called marriage a "*great mystery*" (Ephesians 5:32). A mystery means it cannot be understood by human reasoning alone. It must be revealed by the Spirit. This book is an attempt to reveal that mystery—to pull back the veil and show you what God has hidden in plain sight.

What You Will Learn

This book will challenge you. It will confront your assumptions. It will call you to a higher standard.

You will learn why you exist before you even think about marriage. You will discover God's hidden purposes for this institution. You will understand why feelings cannot lead you into covenant. You will see the roles of husband and wife from God's perspective. You will learn how to fight the right enemy in conflict. You will grasp the mystery of oneness and the power it releases.

And ultimately, you will learn how to leave a legacy—a godly heritage that impacts generations.

These are not easy truths. But they are life-giving truths.

A Word About the Source

The content of this book is drawn from the teachings of Apostle Michael Orokpo, a servant of God with a prophetic voice for this generation. His ministry, Encounter Jesus Ministries, is dedicated to sustaining an experiential knowledge of God and walking in the fullness of our eternal ordination.

His teachings on marriage are bold, clear, and uncompromising. They have helped countless couples find healing, direction, and purpose. This book seeks to share those teachings with a wider audience.

While the words in these pages are not all direct quotes, they faithfully reflect the Apostle's heart and message. The goal is not to present new ideas, but to present timeless truth in a way that is accessible and actionable.

How to Read This Book

Read with an open heart. Do not dismiss what challenges you. Instead, ask God to reveal the truth to you.

Read with a teachable spirit. If you are married, ask how these truths apply to your situation. If you are single, ask how they can prepare you for the future.

Read with a willingness to change. These teachings are not just for information. They are for transformation. They are meant to shape your marriage, your home, and your legacy.

A Final Word Before We Begin

Marriage is not a feeling. It is a mystery.

It is a divine institution with eternal purposes. It is a school of spiritual formation. It is a channel of godly heritage. It is a reflection of the relationship between Christ and the Church.

When you understand this, everything changes. You stop asking, *"What am I getting?"* and start asking, *"What is God accomplishing?"*

The answer will shape your marriage for eternity.

Now, let us begin.

Chapter 1: Why You Exist

The Three Purposes of Human Existence Before Marriage

Before you can build a marriage that lasts, you must understand why you are alive.

Most people approach marriage as a solution. They think it will fix loneliness, silence family pressure, or validate their worth. But marriage was never designed to complete you. Only God completes you. When you bring an incomplete life into a covenant, you don't fix the problem. You multiply it.

The Bible reveals three foundational reasons you exist. These are not optional. They are the purpose written into your DNA before you were born. If you build your life—and your marriage—on anything less, you are building on sand.

1. Hosting God's Presence

You are a container designed to carry glory.

In 1 Corinthians 11:7, the Apostle Paul writes that *"man is the glory of God."* The word glory—*kabod* in Hebrew—means weight, essence, and substance. It is not a cloud or a feeling. It is the nature, likeness, and life of God Himself.

You were created to reflect who God is. When people see you, they should see something of Him.

Apostle Orokpo teaches this clearly:

"Existence would be a waste, except as we come to that point in spiritual maturity where we are able to host and reflect the glory of God."

Without this, you remain empty. And when you are empty, you will chase anything that promises to fill you. Money. Status. Sex. Approval. Anything of value can become God to you, but nothing of value can replace Him.

Marriage is not the answer to emptiness. God is. When you come into marriage already hosting His presence, you bring glory into the home. When you don't, you bring neediness—and neediness always demands more than a spouse can give.

2. Becoming Like Christ

Salvation is not the end. It is the beginning.

God did not save you just so you could go to heaven when you die. He saved you so that you could become like Jesus while you live.

Romans 8:29 says God predestined us *"to be conformed to the image of His Son."* This is the goal. Every circumstance, every relationship, every struggle is a tool God uses to carve Christ's character into you.

Marriage is one of His sharpest tools. It will expose what you hide from others. It will test your patience, your pride, your selfishness. And in the process, it will refine you.

Apostle Orokpo explains:

"God brings him into a context and into an equation. And in that equation, all God is teaching him is how to give up."

Before you marry, ask yourself: Am I willing to die? Because that is what becoming like Christ requires. Not just in word, but in daily sacrifice—laying down your preferences, your pride, your right to be right.

If you are not ready to change, you are not ready to marry.

3. Fulfilling Divine Assignment

You were not born by accident. You were sent.

Before you were formed in your mother's womb, God knew you. He set you apart for a purpose (Jeremiah 1:5). Your life is not random. It is an assignment.

This is the second reason you exist: to give expression to the will of God on earth. Angels carry out God's will perfectly in heaven. On earth, God uses men and women to advance His agenda.

"The will of God is a precursor. It is a requirement, and at the same time, it is an activator of the resources of life."

When you pursue divine assignment, everything you need follows. Jesus said, *"Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you"* (Matthew 6:33).

This means your purpose comes first. Marriage is secondary to purpose. Your spouse is not your purpose. Your spouse is your partner in purpose.

Apostle Orokpo puts it bluntly:

"You will struggle unless you begin to live out the will of God. No man pursuing a divine vision is poor on earth."

If you marry before you know your assignment, you will marry someone who may not align with it. And misalignment is misery.

Why Purpose Must Come Before Marriage

Now you understand: you exist to host glory, become like Christ, and fulfill divine assignment.

Marriage does not create these things. It reveals them.

If you enter marriage without purpose, you will expect your spouse to give you meaning. That is too heavy a weight for any human to carry. Only God can carry it.

The Apostle says:

"If you have not found your purpose, you are not qualified to marry."

This is not meant to discourage you. It is meant to save you. When you know why you are here, you know who you are looking for. Your spouse is not the one who makes you feel good. Your spouse is the one who helps you become what God called you to be.

Do not rush. Build your life first. Build your relationship with God first. Build your assignment first. Then, when you find a wife or a husband, you will not be looking for someone to complete you. You will be looking for someone to walk with you.

Summary

- You exist to host God's glory.
- You exist to become like Christ.
- You exist to fulfill a divine assignment.

These three purposes come before marriage. When you build your life on them, marriage becomes what it was always meant to be: a covenant partnership, not a rescue mission.

Chapter 2: The Real Purpose of Marriage

Five Hidden Agendas of God

Most people think they know what marriage is for. They see it as a romantic partnership, a legal arrangement, or a path to happiness. But God's design goes much deeper. Marriage is not primarily for your comfort. It is a divine institution with eternal purposes built into its foundation.

The Apostle Paul called marriage a "*great mystery*" (Ephesians 5:32). A mystery means something that cannot be understood by human reasoning alone. It must be revealed by the Spirit. When you grasp God's purposes for marriage, you stop approaching it as a consumer and start approaching it as a steward.

Here are five hidden agendas God built into marriage from the beginning.

1. Marriage as a Kingdom Institution

Before the church existed, marriage existed.

Genesis 2 records the first marriage. God Himself officiated. He brought the woman to the man and established the pattern. This makes marriage the oldest institution on earth—older than government, older than religion, older than any human system.

Apostle Orokpo explains:

"When God created man, in order for man to qualify to advance His agenda, He created an institution. And that institution is what we've been considering—the institution called marriage."

Marriage is not a human invention. It is a kingdom ordinance. And like all ordinances, it has laws that govern it. Violate those laws, and the institution breaks down. Keep them, and it becomes a channel for heaven's authority to flow into the earth.

When you view marriage as a kingdom institution, you stop treating it casually. You realize you have entered something sacred. It is not about your happiness first. It is about God's purpose first.

2. Marriage and Spiritual Formation

Marriage is a school of the Spirit. It is where character is forged and Christ-likeness is formed.

When you live with someone day after day, your hidden weaknesses come to light. Impatience, selfishness, pride—all of it surfaces. And God uses your spouse as a mirror to show you what you cannot see in yourself.

Apostle Orokpo teaches:

"The first priority of God that necessitates marriage is that marriage creates an atmosphere for you to become like Christ."

For the man, this means learning to die. For the woman, this means learning to submit. Both are unnatural to fallen human nature. Both require the Holy Spirit's help.

Marriage does not make you holy automatically. But it does create the environment where holiness can be cultivated. Every conflict is a lesson in forgiveness. Every disappointment is a lesson in patience. Every season of waiting is a lesson in faith.

If you want to grow spiritually, stay married. Run to God in the middle of your struggles, and He will use them to shape you.

3. Marriage and Dominion

In Genesis 1:28, God blessed Adam and Eve and said, *"Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion."*

Dominion was not given to Adam alone. It was given to the man and the woman together. There is a power that emerges when two become one that does not exist in isolation.

Ecclesiastes 4:12 says, *"A threefold cord is not quickly broken."* When husband, wife, and the Spirit are united, there is a strength that cannot be defeated.

Apostle Orokpo explains the mystery:

"One man may fight, win or fall. Two may fight, win or fall. But when the three is harmonized, the husband, the wife, and the Spirit, it becomes a threefold cord. The same power that is exuded from the divine begins to flow out of the marriage."

This is why marriage is a target of the enemy. He knows that a unified home wields authority. He knows that where two agree, things shift in the heavenlies (Matthew 18:19). He attacks marriage to weaken your spiritual authority.

When your home is unified, you carry a weight in the spirit that demons cannot resist. You don't just pray prayers—you enforce decrees. That is dominion.

4. Marriage and Representation

Marriage is a living picture of something bigger.

In Ephesians 5, Paul compares the relationship between husband and wife to the relationship between Christ and the Church. The husband represents Christ. The wife represents the Church. Their interaction is a testimony to the world of the gospel.

Apostle Orokpo says:

"The reason Paul called it a great mystery is that marriage creates an atmosphere for you to be able to become like Christ. And for the man, it is self-denial. And for the woman, it is submission."

This is not about dominance. It is about display. God wants to show the world what His love looks like. He does it through the way husbands love their wives sacrificially and wives honor their husbands respectfully.

When marriages fail, the picture is distorted. When marriages succeed, the gospel is visible. Your home is not just your home. It

is a pulpit. People are watching. Angels are watching. Even demons are watching.

5. Marriage and Godly Heritage

One of God's primary purposes for marriage is to preserve and extend His covenant.

Malachi 2:15 says, *"Did He not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring."*

God is interested in the next generation. He wants children who know Him, who carry His purposes, who continue His work on the earth. Marriage is the channel through which godly heritage is transferred.

Apostle Orokpo emphasizes this:

"One of the ways God secures His inheritance among men is through the family institution. When the family institution is pervaded, aliens are born."

When you marry outside God's will, you risk opening doors in your bloodline that should remain closed. When you marry according to His purpose, you become a custodian of something eternal.

Your children are not just yours. They are arrows in the hand of a warrior (Psalm 127:4). They are God's errands to the earth. How you steward your marriage determines what they carry.

What This Means for You

God is not trying to make you miserable with rules. He is trying to make you fruitful with purpose.

Marriage is not a consolation prize for those who fail at singleness. It is a strategic tool in His kingdom. It is meant to produce glory, character, authority, testimony, and heritage.

When you understand these five purposes, everything changes. You stop asking, "*What am I getting out of this?*" and start asking, "*What is God accomplishing through this?*" The answer will shape how you love, how you forgive, and how you stay.

Summary

- Marriage is a kingdom institution—older than the church.
- Marriage is a school of spiritual formation—shaping you into Christ's image.
- Marriage activates dominion—authority flows from unity.
- Marriage represents the gospel—the world sees Christ and the Church.
- Marriage preserves godly heritage—children carry the covenant forward.

Chapter 3: Don't Marry Who You Love

Understanding Covenant Above Emotion

This is the most controversial statement in this book.

Don't marry who you love.

On the surface, it sounds wrong. It sounds cold. It sounds like the opposite of everything you have been taught. But the Apostle's teaching is not a rejection of love. It is a rejection of emotion as the foundation of covenant.

Marriage is not built on how you feel. It is built on what you know and who you obey. Your feelings will change. Your covenant must not.

Apostle Orokpo says plainly:

"The Bible does not teach that you should marry who you love. And so when you are looking for a wife or you are looking for a husband, your feeling is not qualified to lead you."

Let that sink in. Your feelings are not qualified to lead you into marriage. They are too unstable. They are too easily manipulated. They change with weather, hormones, and circumstances. If you build your marriage on them, your marriage will collapse when they do.

Why Feelings Cannot Lead Marriage

Feelings are not evil. They are part of how God made you. But they were never meant to be your guide. They were meant to be your flavor.

Apostle Orokpo explains:

"The reason is because a spirit does not become part of a relationship on the strength of emotion. A spirit becomes part of a relationship only on the strength of covenant."

When you enter marriage, you are not just making a legal arrangement. You are entering a covenant. A covenant is a spiritual transaction. And the Holy Spirit does not commit Himself to something as unreliable as your mood.

Think about this: No court asks whether you love the person when you file for divorce. Because love is not the bond. Covenant is. You can love someone deeply and still not be able to marry them. You can marry someone and learn to love them through covenant obedience.

The Apostle says:

"The moment you step in, you will now meet another kind of love. The love that motivates people into marriage is largely emotional. But the God-kind of love commands marriage—it's not emotional at all. It's responsibility."

Love as Responsibility

In Titus 2:4, Paul instructs older women to *"teach the young women to love their husbands."*

Notice what this means: love is something that can be taught. It is a skill, not a spark. It is a choice, not a feeling. It is a discipline, not an accident.

Apostle Orokpo clarifies:

"That kind of love is not born out of 'I looked at her at first sight and something happened to me.' This one is taught."

This is a paradigm shift. You do not marry who you love. You love who you marry. The love begins after the covenant, not before. And that love is sustained by commitment, not chemistry.

When you marry who you love, you are building on shifting sand. When you love who you marry, you are building on a rock.

Friendship Versus Covenant

There is a dangerous teaching in the modern church that says you should marry your best friend. On the surface, this sounds good. But it confuses two different types of relationships.

Friendship is *phileo* love. It is built on common interests, shared experiences, and mutual enjoyment. It is good, but it is passive. It can be broken by a misunderstanding.

Marriage is covenant. It is built on blood, on oath, on divine witness. It is not passive. It is binding.

Apostle Orokpo warns:

"You don't marry your friend. If you marry your friend, you will discover that the bond between friends does not reach blood. The bond of marriage is from the blood. It's covenant."

Can you build friendship in marriage? Yes. Should you? Absolutely. But your marriage must be more than friendship. It must be covenant.

Many relationships that call themselves "friendships" are actually emotional attachments that lead to heartbreak. One person thinks it is leading to marriage. The other sees it as casual. When you assume friendship is enough, you leave yourself exposed.

The Apostle says:

"If a young man is blocking your space, ask him: what is the matter? Because you don't marry your friend. He can wake up after seven years and tell you that you were just friends."

How God Leads People Into Marriage

If your feelings are not the guide, what is?

God guides through His Spirit. He reveals through His Word. He confirms through peace, counsel, and circumstances. And He always aligns with His purpose.

Apostle Orokpo outlines three things that must be present before you marry:

1. The leading of the Holy Spirit.

"If you have not reached the point where the Holy Ghost will lead you to marry, then you are not yet qualified to marry."

2. Alignment with your purpose.

"When you find your purpose, it becomes easy to find your wife. Because your wife will resonate around your purpose."

3. The fear of God in the person.

"If he doesn't fear God, he won't fear your father."

These three things are superior to emotion. They are eternal. They are reliable. They will not change with the seasons.

Red Flags to Watch For

Apostle Orokpo lists several warning signals that should make you pause. If you see these in someone you are considering, do not ignore them. Do not let love blind you.

1. Lying.

"When you want to marry someone and his words mean nothing to him, know that on that day on the altar, everything he is saying is a wrapping."

2. Inconsistent lifestyle.

"This person is two people in one. One is secular. The other is spiritual. You are about to enter a pit."

3. Violent tendencies.

"Before you cough, he is giving you a jetty slap. Run for your life."

4. Disregard for spiritual things.

"If somebody doesn't fear scripture, he is not afraid of your father."

5. Reckless lifestyle.

"You become a widow very early. Or you become a widower very early."

6. Uncomfortable past.

"Don't just say: I don't do it anymore. That kind of repentance needs to be supervised."

7. Undefined source of income.

"You are partaking of that resource without knowing its root. And because you partake of it, you are already eating from it."

These are not small issues. They are indicators of character. And character is what will sustain your marriage when feelings fade.

Why People Ignore Red Flags

Apostle Orokpo identifies several reasons people overlook warning signs:

- **Unreasonable affection.** *"I love him, I love him. You will die."*
- **Pressure to settle.** Family and society demand it.

- **Pressure of sexual intimacy.** *"They have had fantasies. Whatever happens, they are going ahead."*
- **Escaping poverty.** *"They marry purely because the person has prospects."*
- **Proving a point.** *"They want to show others they are not alone."*

None of these reasons will sustain a marriage. They will only create regret

What This Means for You

Marriage is too serious for shortcuts. It is too sacred for compromise.

If you are not yet married, slow down. Ask God to show you the truth. Ask Him to reveal red flags. Ask Him to help you build your life first.

If you are already married and you realize you married based on feeling rather than covenant, do not panic. Your marriage has now become God's purpose for you. Build it on the foundation of His grace. Learn to love who you married. Die to yourself. Submit to God. And watch Him restore what emotion could not sustain.

Apostle Orokpo concludes:

"Don't marry who you love. Love who you marry. Because love is a commandment. Love is a responsibility. And as you begin to grow

in that responsibility, you will discover that emotion will come naturally."

Summary

- Marriage is built on covenant, not emotion.
- Love is a responsibility, not a feeling.
- Friendship is not a foundation for covenant.
- God leads through the Spirit, purpose, and fear of God.
- Red flags must not be ignored.
- Marriage is too sacred for shortcuts.

Chapter 4: The Husband and the Wife

God's Order for Marriage

If you want to understand marriage, you must understand order.

God is a God of order. From the arrangement of the stars to the structure of the Church, He works through systems of authority. Marriage is no exception. It has a design, and that design is not optional.

In a world that celebrates equality in all things, the Bible presents something different. It does not say husband and wife are unequal in value. It says they have different functions. One is the head. The other is the body. Both are essential. Both are honored. But they are not the same.

Apostle Orokpo explains:

"It's not about dominance. It's a divine wisdom. It's not about your nature or your essence. It's about order, authority, and structure."

Headship and Submission

Ephesians 5:22-24 is one of the most debated passages in Scripture:

"Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, as also Christ is the head of the church."

These words are not popular. They are not politically correct. But they are true.

Submission does not mean inferiority. Jesus submitted to the Father, yet He was equal with the Father. Submission is about function, not value. It is about order, not oppression.

Apostle Orokpo puts it bluntly:

"If you don't respond to your husband the way you respond to Jesus, your Christianity is fake. Because this is not about feeling. This is about how God judges you from Zion."

When a wife submits to her husband, she is not becoming less. She is becoming what God designed her to be in that role. She is reflecting the Church's relationship to Christ. And that is a high calling, not a low one.

Equality in Value, Difference in Function

It is critical to understand: the Bible does not teach that women are inferior to men. In Christ, there is no male or female (Galatians 3:28). Both are heirs of salvation. Both bear the image of God. Both are equally valuable.

But equality in value does not mean sameness in role.

Apostle Orokpo clarifies:

"In society, a woman can be president. She can command the whole nation. But when she comes home, she will put her office as president in her pocket and submit to her Lord. Because this is an institution that has its root in the spirit."

A woman can be a CEO, a senator, or a head of state. She has the same rights as any man in the public sphere. But marriage is not the public sphere. It is a covenant institution with its own laws.

When you confuse the two, you bring chaos into your home. Society may applaud you for "standing up for your rights," but God looks for something else. He looks for order.

The Pattern of Christ and the Church

The Bible does not leave us guessing about the marriage relationship. It gives us a clear pattern: Christ and the Church.

- Christ is the head. The Church submits to Him.
- Christ loves the Church. He gave Himself for her.
- Christ cleanses the Church. He washes her with the Word.
- Christ presents the Church. He makes her without spot or wrinkle.

Every one of these has a parallel in marriage.

Apostle Orokpo says:

"The head of the church is the head of the body. The church is subject to Christ. So as the church is subject to Christ, so let the woman, the wife, be subject to her husband."

This means a wife's submission is not optional. It is part of the pattern. And a husband's love is not optional either. It is part of the same pattern.

What Headship Is Not

Many men misunderstand headship. They think it means bossing their wives around. They think it means making all the decisions without input. They think it means using their strength to intimidate.

This is not headship. This is tyranny.

Headship is not about getting your way. It is about taking responsibility. It is about providing, protecting, and leading with humility. It is about dying to yourself so that your wife can thrive.

Jesus is the pattern. And Jesus washed feet. Jesus served. Jesus gave His life.

If your headship does not look like Jesus, it is not biblical headship.

What Submission Is Not

Many women misunderstand submission. They think it means becoming a doormat. They think it means never having an opinion. They think it means enduring abuse.

This is not submission. This is slavery.

Biblical submission is voluntary. It is an act of trust in God. It is saying, *"I will place myself under my husband's leadership because I trust God to work through him."*

Apostle Orokpo says:

"A wife is not weak because she is not physically strong. She is weak because she has already been commanded to submit. Her submission makes her vulnerable."

This vulnerability is not a weakness. It is a strength. It takes more courage to submit than to fight. It takes more faith to trust than to control.

And the promise for the wife who submits is this: God will honor her. He will protect her. He will use her submission to shape her husband into what he should be.

The Husband's Accountability

Here is what many men do not realize: with headship comes accountability.

The same passage that tells wives to submit tells husbands to love. And the love required of husbands is not romantic affection. It is sacrificial death.

Apostle Orokpo explains:

"The judgment of the man is heavier. God created you. He knows the corruption that affected your soul. The corruption that came on the man was self-centeredness, selfishness. The only way God can kill it is that everything the man possesses, He asks him to give it up for his wife."

A man cannot claim to love God if he mistreats his wife. His relationship with God is measured by his relationship with her.

In 1 Peter 3:7, husbands are warned: *"Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered."*

Notice the consequence: if you do not honor your wife, your prayers will be hindered. God will not listen to a man who dishonors his wife. That is how serious this is.

The Wife's Accountability

The wife is also accountable. Her submission is not optional. It is commanded.

In 1 Peter 3:1-6, Sarah is held up as a model. She called Abraham "lord." She submitted to him even when he was not perfect. And God honored her for it.

Apostle Orokpo says:

"The sign that you are a holy woman, a daughter of Sarah, is not captured in your power to profess. It's not captured in your power to lead a good career. The sign is that in the same weakness and submission, you see and call your husband Lord."

This does not mean every husband is a perfect leader. Far from it. But it means the wife's responsibility is to trust God enough to follow her husband's leadership, even when it is imperfect.

God will honor that trust. He will work in the husband's life. He will bring correction where it is needed. But the wife's part is submission.

Walking Together in Purpose

Head and body are different, but they are one. They work together. They move together. They are not in competition.

The same is true in marriage.

Apostle Orokpo explains:

"The husband is the head. But his authority is not for oppression. It is for cultivation. He is to bring out the best in his wife, just as Christ brings out the best in the Church."

And the wife is not passive. She is a helper. She is a partner. She brings her strengths, her wisdom, and her gifts to the union. Together, they accomplish what neither could do alone.

This is God's order. It is not about control. It is about cooperation. It is not about domination. It is about destiny.

Summary

- God is a God of order, and marriage has a structure.
- Headship and submission are about function, not value.
- Christ and the Church are the pattern for marriage.
- Headship is responsibility, not tyranny.
- Submission is trust in God, not weakness.
- Husbands are accountable to God for how they lead.
- Wives are accountable to God for how they follow.
- Together, they walk in purpose and fulfill God's design.

Chapter 5: The Calling of the Husband

Loving Like Christ

If you are a husband, your calling is the hardest role in marriage.

This is not a competition. It is not about who suffers more. It is about understanding what God requires of you. And what He requires is nothing less than the love of Christ.

The husband's calling: to die.

Not physically, though that may be required. But daily. Repeatedly. Willingly. To lay down your pride, your preferences, your comfort, and your rights for the sake of your wife.

Loving Like Christ

Ephesians 5:25 gives the husband his standard:

"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her."

This is not a suggestion. It is a command. And the measure of that love is not how you feel. It is what you give.

Christ did not love the Church because she was lovable. He loved her while she was still sinful. He loved her while she was still rebellious. He loved her enough to die for her.

Apostle Orokpo explains:

"That kind of love is self denial. It's sacrifice. You love by dying. You don't love by feeling. The way Christ loved the church was that He died."

When your wife offends you, you die to your anger. When she disrespects you, you die to your pride. When she is unreasonable, you die to your need to be right.

This is not weakness. It is the highest form of strength.

Sacrifice and Selflessness

The husband's love is defined by sacrifice. He is called to give up everything for his wife.

In Ephesians 5:28-29, Paul writes:

"So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it."

This means a husband's care for his wife is not optional. It is as natural as caring for his own body. He nourishes her. He cherishes her. He protects her.

Apostle Orokpo says:

"The way God instructed the man to love the woman is through sacrifice and selflessness. That's why you notice that in every relationship, it is the man that buys all the gifts."

But this sacrifice goes beyond gifts. It is defending her interests. It is putting her needs above your own. It is being willing to lose face so she can be honored.

The Apostle says:

"Every time a man truly loves his woman, he fights to defend her. You can say anything, but don't talk about his wife. If you touch her, you will see him. He forgets everything that defines him."

Honoring Your Wife

1 Peter 3:7 gives the husband another instruction:

"Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life."

The word honor means to give value, to esteem, to respect. The husband is commanded to honor his wife.

Apostle Orokpo outlines three ways a husband honors his wife:

1. Support and Encourage Her

"Sometimes you need to come back, sit down, check her job, find out what she's doing, and just praise her, that she's a strong woman."

Women are moved by commendation. They need to hear that they are valued. A simple word of appreciation can change the atmosphere in your home.

2. Defend Her Integrity

"When your wife is involved in something, don't go out and break her. You find some men, their wife is involved in something. They show up in the public. They start ridiculing her. Reduce her to rags to show that they are men."

A true husband defends his wife publicly. He does not humiliate her. He does not expose her. He protects her reputation even when she is wrong.

3. Provide for Her Needs

"Find out what she needs. Sometimes she may not say everything. You've been with her for a while. When you know she has a need, go out of your way to provide for it."

A husband who neglects his wife's needs is not a husband. He is a boy playing a role.

Defending and Protecting Her

A husband is a protector. This is not just physical. It is emotional, spiritual, and financial.

The Apostle says:

"You fight to defend her. And that is what will make a woman to be secure. To hand her authority over to you. The reason women are fighting for their rights today is because too many boys got married."

When a woman does not feel protected, she becomes defensive. She builds walls. She fights for control. But when she knows her husband will defend her, she can rest. She can submit. She can trust.

Your wife needs to know that you are her shield. That you will stand between her and harm. That you will not allow anyone—family, friends, or strangers—to mistreat her.

Cultivating Her Potential

The husband is called to cultivate his wife. This is the original design.

In Genesis 2:15, Adam was placed in the garden *"to dress and keep it."* The word *dress* means to cultivate. The same word applies to the husband's role. His wife is his garden. His job is to bring out her best.

Apostle Orokpo explains:

"The job of the husband is to cultivate. When he gets married, he enters his primary assignment. The job of the man is to bring out the value, the quality of the woman."

How does he do this?

1. Through the Word.

Ephesians 5:26 says: *"That He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word."* The husband uses Scripture to

shape his wife's character. He speaks truth into her. He encourages her in her identity. He teaches her the ways of God.

2. Through Prayer.

Your wife has battles you cannot see. She has wounds you cannot heal. But you can bring her to the One who can. Your prayers for her are not optional. They are part of your cultivation.

3. Through Patience.

The woman is a mirror. What you see in her is often what needs to change in you. Your patience with her is God's tool to shape you both.

The Husband's Accountability Before God

Here is the sobering truth: a husband is accountable to God for how he treats his wife.

1 Timothy 5:8 says:

"But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."

This is not just about money. It is about everything. Providing for her security. Providing for her emotional well-being. Providing for her spiritual growth.

Apostle Orokpo warns:

"If you dishonor your wife, your prayers will not be answered. God will look at you like an infidel. That's why you see most people come to pray. None of their prayers have been answered. It's an infidel praying."

A man can be a powerful preacher, a visionary leader, a miracle worker. But if he mistreats his wife, God cuts him off. His prayers become an abomination.

This is not a small matter. Your relationship with God is tied to your relationship with your wife.

Becoming a Husband

The world has many ideas about what a man should be. Strong. Successful. Respected. But God has a different standard.

Apostle Orokpo says:

"You are not a man because you boss around. The person who says sorry is stronger.."

A real husband is willing to say sorry. He is willing to kneel. He is willing to die to his ego. He is not threatened by his wife's success. He celebrates it. He is not intimidated by her strength. He cultivates it.

When a man becomes a husband, he stops thinking about himself. He starts thinking about her. He stops demanding honor. He starts giving it. He stops seeking his own comfort. He starts seeking her growth.

This is the calling of the husband. It is not for the faint-hearted.
But it is the path to glory.

Summary

- The husband's calling is to love like Christ.
- Love is sacrifice and selflessness.
- Husbands must honor, defend, and provide for their wives.
- The husband cultivates his wife through the Word, prayer, and patience.
- A husband is accountable to God for his treatment of his wife.
- Real strength is in dying to self, not bossing around.

Chapter 6: The Calling of the Wife

The Beauty of Submission

Submission is one of the most misunderstood words in the Bible.

For many women, it sounds like oppression. It sounds like being silenced, diminished, or controlled. But that is not what Scripture teaches. Biblical submission is not about weakness. It is about order. It is about trust. It is about reflecting the relationship between Christ and the Church.

The world tells women to fight for their rights. But God calls wives to something different. He calls them to a higher path—one that requires more courage than rebellion.

What Submission Is Not

Before we talk about what submission is, we must clear up what it is not.

Submission is not slavery. A wife is not a servant. She is not a doormat. She is not less valuable than her husband. In Christ, there is no male or female. Both are equally heirs of grace.

Submission is not silence. A wife can and should speak. She can share her opinions. She can offer wisdom. She is a helper, not a puppet.

Submission is not enduring abuse. If a husband is violent or oppressive, that is sin. No woman should tolerate mistreatment in the name of submission. God does not call anyone to stay in harm's way.

Submission is not inferiority. It is a function, not a value. Just as Jesus submitted to the Father and was equal to Him, a wife submits to her husband and is equal to him.

What Submission Is

Submission is a posture of the heart. It is a choice to place yourself under your husband's leadership because you trust God to work through him.

It is voluntary. No one can force you to submit. It is an act of faith. You are not submitting because your husband deserves it. You are submitting because God commands it.

Submission is alignment with God's order. In every system, there is structure. In marriage, the structure is clear: the husband is the head. This does not mean he is better. It means he bears the responsibility.

The Bible is not ambiguous about this. It says wives submit to their husbands as to the Lord. That means the same way you submit to Jesus is the same way you submit to your husband. If you struggle with submission to your husband, it reveals something about your submission to Christ.

This is a hard teaching. It challenges everything the world tells you. But it is the path to blessing.

The Sarah Model

Sarah is held up as the model for wives. She called Abraham *lord*. Not because he was perfect. He made mistakes. He lied about her. He put her in danger. But Sarah trusted God. She submitted to her husband, and God honored her.

The sign that you are a holy woman is not found in your career or your public achievements. It is found in your willingness to submit to your husband in the same way Sarah did. This is not about your husband being worthy. It is about God being worthy of your trust.

God honors women who trust Him enough to submit, even when their husbands are imperfect.

Trusting God Within Marriage

Submission is an act of trust. You are not trusting your husband alone. You are trusting God to work through your husband.

This is the key. When you submit, you are not saying your husband is always right. You are saying God is able to use even imperfect leadership to accomplish His purposes.

A wife who trusts in God knows that her security is not in her husband. Her security is in God. And because she trusts God, she can submit to her husband without fear.

This is freedom. You are not trapped by your husband's failures. You are anchored in God's sovereignty. You can follow your husband's leadership because you know God has your back.

Respect and Honor

Submission is expressed through respect. The Bible commands wives to respect their husbands. Respect is not optional. It is not earned. It is given.

When a wife does not find what she is looking for in her husband, she should take it to the altar, not to social media. Too many women today broadcast their husband's failures to the world. They complain to friends. They post on Facebook. They seek public opinion. This is not the way of holy women.

A wife who respects her husband does not expose his weaknesses. She prays. She waits. She trusts God to change what she cannot.

The Power of Godly Character

The Bible says a wife's character can win her husband to God. Not her words. Not her arguments. Her conduct. Her submission. Her fear of the Lord.

When a wife submits, she preaches a sermon without saying a word. She demonstrates the Gospel. She shows the world what it looks like to trust God.

Your life becomes a message. Your submission to your husband is like your submission to the Word of God. When people see your submission, it provokes them to become submissive to God's Word.

This is remarkable power. A Muslim husband can be converted to Christianity just by watching how his wife honors him. That is the weight of godly character.

Becoming a Holy Woman

The Bible says holy women of old trusted in God. They were not defined by their looks. They were defined by their character.

True beauty is not about outward adornment—hair, jewelry, or fine clothes. It is about the hidden person of the heart. It is about a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in God's sight.

When you want to find the beauty of a holy woman, it is captured in her submission. When you find such a woman, what comes out of her is the glory of God.

This beauty is not weak. It is powerful. It is the kind of beauty that changes homes, changes families, and changes generations.

What This Means for You

Submission is not easy. It goes against every instinct. It requires dying to yourself. It requires trusting God when your husband is wrong.

But the promise is this: God sees. God honors. God rewards.

When a wife submits, she is not losing herself. She is finding herself in God's order. She is becoming what God designed her to be. She is releasing power into her home, her marriage, and her destiny.

Your glory as a wife is not in your independence. It is in your submission to God's order.

Summary

- Submission is not slavery, silence, inferiority, or enduring abuse.
- Submission is a posture of trust in God's order.
- Sarah is the model of a submissive wife.
- Submission is an act of trust in God, not just in your husband.
- Respect and honor are commanded, not earned.
- A godly character can win a husband without words.
- True beauty is a gentle and quiet spirit.

Chapter 7: Marriage as a Tool for Spiritual Transformation

Becoming More Like Christ

Marriage is not just about happiness. It is about holiness.

This may surprise you. Most people enter marriage looking for comfort, companionship, or validation. But God has something deeper in mind. He uses marriage to transform you. He uses it to reveal what is hidden in your heart and to shape you into the image of His Son.

Apostle Orokpo captures this powerfully:

"God brings him into a context and into an equation. And in that equation, all God is teaching him is how to give up."

This is the heart of spiritual transformation in marriage: learning to die.

How Marriage Reveals Character

Before marriage, you can hide. You can present your best self. You can control what others see. But marriage changes everything.

Living with someone day after day exposes what you have kept hidden. Your impatience surfaces. Your selfishness becomes obvious. Your pride shows itself in ways you never expected.

This is not a problem. It is an opportunity.

Your spouse becomes a mirror. When you see something ugly in that mirror, you have two choices. You can blame the mirror. Or you can let God use the reflection to change you.

Apostle Orokpo explains that the woman is a mirror for the man. When he thinks he is cultivating her, he is actually being cultivated himself. What he sees in her often reveals what needs to change in him.

The same is true for the wife. Your husband's weaknesses become a mirror for your own. His failures reveal your need for patience. His struggles reveal your need for grace.

Dying to Self

The core of spiritual transformation in marriage is dying to self.

For the husband, this means dying to his ego. It means laying down his pride. It means saying sorry when he would rather be right. It means serving when he would rather be served.

For the wife, this means dying to her independence. It means trusting when she would rather control. It means submitting when she would rather fight. It means being vulnerable when she would rather protect herself.

This death is not pleasant. It is painful. But it produces something beautiful.

Apostle Orokpo says that only dead men can be husbands. God slew Adam before He gave him Eve. Adam was asleep when God formed the woman. This is a picture. A husband must be willing to die—daily, repeatedly—for his wife to become what God designed her to be.

Becoming More Like Christ

This is the ultimate goal. Not a comfortable marriage. Not a happy marriage. A Christ-like marriage.

Paul says that the husband should love his wife as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself for her. This is not a suggestion. It is a command. And it is the pattern.

When a husband loves his wife sacrificially, he becomes more like Jesus. When a wife submits to her husband as the Church submits to Christ, she becomes more like Jesus. The marriage becomes a school of Christ-likeness.

Apostle Orokpo teaches that the first purpose of marriage is to bring Christ out of the man and Christ out of the woman. The man learns to give up. The woman learns to trust. And together, they reflect the glory of God.

This is why marriage matters. It is not just about you. It is about God's image being displayed in your union.

Growing Together Spiritually

Transformation does not happen automatically. It requires intention.

You must be intentional about praying together. Intentional about studying the Word together. Intentional about forgiving quickly. Intentional about addressing issues before they fester.

Apostle Orokpo warns that many homes fail because couples do not deal with problems in the Spirit. They try to solve things with conversation alone. But some battles require prayer. Some issues require spiritual warfare.

This is why priesthood is central to marriage. The husband is a priest in his home. The wife is like a Levite, supporting the spiritual life of the family. Together, they create an atmosphere where God's presence can dwell.

When you grow together spiritually, your marriage becomes more than a partnership. It becomes an altar. And on that altar, God meets you.

The Pain and the Promise

Transformation is painful. It requires you to face what you would rather ignore. It requires you to change what you would rather defend.

But the promise is this: God is with you in the process. He is not punishing you. He is perfecting you.

The purpose of marriage is not to make you comfortable. It is to make you like Christ. And that is worth the pain.

Summary

- Marriage reveals hidden character and exposes areas that need change.
- Dying to self is the path to transformation.
- The goal of marriage is Christ-likeness, not comfort.
- Growing together spiritually requires intention and prayer.
- The pain of transformation is worth the reward.

Chapter 8: Crisis and Conflict

Fighting the Right Enemy

Conflict is inevitable in marriage. Two imperfect people living in close proximity will clash. But conflict does not have to destroy your marriage. It can actually strengthen it—if you handle it correctly.

The problem is that most couples fight the wrong enemy. They treat each other as opponents. They argue, blame, and withdraw. But the real enemy is not your spouse. It is the spiritual forces that want to destroy your union.

Apostle Orokpo puts it this way:

"The devil is receiving too much advantage because believers are not taught."

When you understand spiritual warfare, you stop fighting your spouse and start fighting the real enemy.

Why Marriages Experience Conflict

Conflict in marriage comes from many sources. Some are natural. Some are spiritual. The key is to discern which is which.

1. Unmet Expectations: You entered marriage with assumptions. You assumed your spouse would be patient, kind, or thoughtful.

When those assumptions fail, disappointment follows. And disappointment often turns to anger.

2. Communication Breakdowns: Many conflicts are simply misunderstandings. You said something. Your spouse heard something else. Pride keeps you from clarifying. And the gap grows wider.

3. Selfishness: At the root of most conflict is selfishness. You want your way. Your spouse wants theirs. Neither is willing to yield. This is why dying to self is so important.

4. Spiritual Attack: Sometimes conflict is not natural at all. It is demonic. The enemy knows that a divided house cannot stand. So he plants seeds of discord. He amplifies small offenses. He whispers lies that fan the flames of anger.

Apostle Orokpo explains:

"What is causing crisis in the marriage is not just misunderstanding. Spirits are involved. And there is no way you can counsel spirits out of the crisis. You can only pray them out."

Some problems cannot be solved with conversation alone. They require prayer. They require spiritual authority. They require warfare.

Understanding Spiritual Warfare in Marriage

Your marriage is a target. The enemy knows that a unified home wields power. He knows that where two agree, things shift in the heavenlies. So he attacks your unity.

Apostle Orokpo identifies several ways the enemy attacks marriage:

- 1. Through Open Doors:** When you quarrel, you open doors. When you call your wife a demon, you open doors. When you insult your husband, you open doors. Demons enter through these doors and establish strongholds.
- 2. Through Unforgiveness:** When you hold onto offense, you give the enemy legal ground. Unforgiveness is like a welcome mat for demons. They can operate freely where bitterness resides.
- 3. Through Recklessness:** Some conflicts are the result of reckless living. Alcohol, drugs, and other addictions weaken your spiritual defenses. They make you vulnerable to attack.
- 4. Through Ignorance:** Many couples suffer because they do not know how to fight spiritually. They try to solve spiritual problems with natural solutions. And they fail.

Conflict Resolution God's Way

The Bible gives clear principles for handling conflict. These are not optional. They are the path to peace.

1. Address Issues Quickly: Do not let the sun go down on your anger. Unresolved anger gives the devil a foothold. Deal with issues before they fester.

2. Speak the Truth in Love: You can be honest without being harsh. Your goal is not to win the argument. It is to restore unity.

3. Listen Before You Speak: James 1:19 says be quick to listen and slow to speak. Most conflicts escalate because no one is listening.

4. Humble Yourself: Pride is the enemy of reconciliation. Someone has to be the first to say sorry. Be that person. It is not weakness. It is strength.

5. Pray Together: When conflict is spiritual, prayer is the solution. If you cannot resolve an issue, pray about it. Ask God to reveal the root. Ask Him to silence the enemy.

Prayer moves what conversation cannot. When you are stuck, pray. When you are angry, pray. When you cannot find a way forward, pray.

Preserving Covenant During Difficult Seasons

There will be seasons when you do not feel like staying. The feelings fade. The romance cools. The struggles intensify. But covenant is not based on feelings. It is based on commitment.

Marriage is a covenant, not a contract. A contract can be broken when terms are violated. A covenant is a blood bond. It is not easily broken.

This means you stay even when it is hard. You fight for your marriage even when you do not feel like it. You pray even when you see no change. You trust God even when your spouse is failing.

Apostle Orokpo identifies three biblical grounds for separation:

- **Death:** When a spouse dies, the survivor is free.
- **Unbeliever Walks Away:** If an unbelieving spouse leaves, the believer is not bound.
- **Fornication:** When the marriage bed is defiled, there is ground for separation.

But he also warns that these are not to be taken lightly. Divorce is never God's best. It is a concession to human hardness of heart. Your job is to preserve the covenant if at all possible.

Restoring Unity After Offense

When you have been offended, restoration is a process. It does not happen instantly. But it must happen.

1. Forgive: Forgiveness is not about feeling better. It is about releasing the offender from the debt they owe you. You forgive because God forgave you.

2. Rebuild Trust: Trust takes time. Do not expect it to return overnight. Be patient. Be consistent. Let your actions prove your commitment.

3. Seek Help: Some issues are too big to handle alone. Seek counsel from spiritual authority. There is wisdom in many counselors.

4. Return to Prayer: Restore your prayer life together. Praying together rebuilds intimacy. It aligns your hearts with God. It invites His presence into your home.

Apostle Orokpo says:

"Every marriage working is made to work. And the best way to make marriage work is on the altar."

The altar is where marriages are restored. Not counseling alone. Not effort alone. Prayer. Submission to God. Surrender.

What This Means for You

You are not powerless in conflict. You have authority. You have weapons. You have the Holy Spirit.

But you must use them. You must pray. You must forgive. You must fight the right enemy.

Do not be ignorant. Learn to fight. Protect your marriage. Guard your home. And trust God to bring you through.

Summary

- Conflict is inevitable, but it does not have to destroy your marriage.
- The real enemy is spiritual, not your spouse.
- Some conflicts require prayer, not just conversation.
- Covenant keeps you when feelings fail.
- Restoration requires forgiveness, patience, and prayer.
- Marriage is made to work on the altar.

Chapter 9: The Mystery of Oneness

Activating Power in Your Union

There is a power in marriage that goes beyond companionship, beyond romance, beyond even procreation. It is the power of oneness.

When two people become one, something shifts in the spiritual realm. A new authority is activated. A new dimension of power is released. This is not human psychology. This is divine mystery.

Apostle Orokpo calls it the mystery of oneness. It is the same mystery that exists in the Godhead—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit existing as one. When you and your spouse become one, you tap into that same reality.

Becoming One Flesh

In Genesis 2:24, God says:

"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."

This is not just poetry. It is a spiritual reality. Two individuals become something new. They do not lose their identity, but they gain a new identity together. What affects one affects the other. What one carries, the other carries.

That is why the Bible says a threefold cord is not easily broken. Husband, wife, and the Holy Spirit form a bond that cannot be shattered by ordinary forces.

Oneness is the foundation of your marriage. Without it, everything is fragile. With it, you are unshakeable.

The Spiritual Dimension of Unity

Unity is not just about getting along. It is about spiritual alignment. When you are one with your spouse, you are aligned with God's purpose for your union.

There is a power in corporate unity that individual effort cannot produce. This is why Jesus said:

"Wherever two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst."

And this is why the early Church experienced such power. They were in one accord. They prayed together. They sacrificed together. And the Spirit moved mightily.

The same principle applies to marriage. When you are united, you create an atmosphere where God can dwell. Your home becomes a place of encounter. Your prayers carry weight. Your declarations shift the atmosphere.

Agreement and Kingdom Power

One of the most powerful tools you have in marriage is agreement. When you agree in prayer, God responds. When you agree in purpose, God moves.

But this agreement is not automatic. It requires effort. It requires communication. It requires sacrifice. You cannot be in agreement if you are holding onto offense. You cannot be in agreement if you are pursuing selfish goals.

Apostle Orokpo teaches that the power of oneness is released when both partners submit to God's order. The wife submits to her husband's leadership. The husband loves his wife sacrificially. Together, they submit to Christ.

When this happens, the spiritual authority in the home increases. The prayers become more effective. The decrees carry more weight. And the enemy cannot touch the foundation.

Building a Home That Reflects Eden

God's original design was for marriage to reflect Eden. A place of safety. A place of abundance. A place of fellowship with God.

When you build a home rooted in oneness, you are rebuilding Eden. Not perfectly, but prophetically. Your home becomes a foretaste of what God intended from the beginning.

Apostle Orokpo says that when the family is right, you will find Eden. This is why the enemy attacks the family so fiercely. He

knows that a restored Eden threatens his kingdom. He knows that a united home carries the authority to push back darkness.

Every time you choose unity over division, you are pushing back the darkness. Every time you forgive rather than fight, you are building Eden. Every time you pray together rather than quarrel, you are creating a space for God's presence.

Walking Together in Purpose

Oneness is not just about getting along. It is about walking together in purpose. God brought you together for a reason. You have a shared assignment. You have a joint destiny.

When you are walking in purpose together, your union becomes powerful. You complement each other. You strengthen each other. You accomplish what neither could do alone.

Apostle Orokpo teaches that your spouse is not your purpose. Your spouse is your partner in purpose. You do not marry to find meaning. You marry to advance the Kingdom together. This is why you cannot marry someone who does not share your purpose.

Purpose alignment is essential for oneness. When you are pulling in the same direction, you are unstoppable.

What This Means for You

Oneness is not automatic. It must be cultivated. It must be protected. It must be fought for.

You must choose unity over pride. You must choose agreement over being right. You must choose partnership over independence.

When you do, something shifts. The power of God flows through your union. Your home becomes a stronghold. Your marriage becomes a testimony.

Apostle Orokpo says:

"The reason God allowed us to live intricately is because He wants to teach us how to wield power in the spirit."

Marriage teaches you power. Not power over each other. Power together. Power in the Spirit. Power that changes things.

Summary

- Oneness is a divine mystery that releases power.
- Unity creates spiritual authority that individuals cannot generate.
- Agreement in prayer and purpose is a weapon against the enemy.
- A united home reflects Eden and pushes back darkness.
- Walking together in purpose makes your union unstoppable.

- Oneness must be cultivated, protected, and fought for.

Chapter 10: Preserving the Heritage

Raising Godly Seed and Building an Altar

Marriage is not just about you. It is about what you leave behind.

God designed marriage to preserve and transfer His purposes from one generation to the next. Your union is not just for your comfort. It is a channel through which God sends His errands to the earth. Your children are not accidents. They are arrows in the hand of a warrior. They carry the inheritance of heaven into a world that desperately needs it.

Apostle Orokpo teaches:

"The reason for unions is for godly seed."

This is why marriage matters so much. It is the primary vehicle for preserving godly heritage. When you get it right, you establish a legacy that impacts generations. When you get it wrong, you open doors for darkness.

The Influence of Marriage on Children

Your marriage shapes your children more than any other influence. They learn from what they see. They absorb the atmosphere of your home. They carry the patterns you model.

If you fight constantly, they learn conflict. If you forgive freely, they learn grace. If you honor each other, they learn respect. If you dishonor each other, they learn contempt.

Apostle Orokpo warns:

"The reason children are becoming aliens and beasts in society is because they took the seed from the family. The child saw a father who was a tyrant, a beast at home. And so it entered his spirit. After 15 years, he becomes a violent boy in school. After 25 years, he becomes a bandit and a terrorist."

This is a sobering truth. The problems in society are often rooted in broken homes. Children carry the spiritual DNA of their parents. They act out what they have absorbed.

When you build a healthy marriage, you are not just building your own happiness. You are building a future for your children. You are giving them a foundation that will sustain them for a lifetime.

Creating a Kingdom Culture at Home

Your home should be more than a house. It should be a kingdom outpost.

Apostle Orokpo explains that

the home is a quality assurance institution. Before a child enters society, the home should have vetted that child. The character, the values, the spiritual formation should be tested and proven in the home.

This means you must be intentional about the culture you create. You cannot leave your children's formation to chance. You must actively shape their understanding of God, of truth, of purpose.

Apostle Orokpo says that the first church was not a building. It was the family in Eden. The family is the primary training ground. The church exists to support what the family is doing.

When you create a kingdom culture at home, you are setting your children up for success. They learn to pray. They learn to honor. They learn to serve. They learn to lead. All of this begins in the home.

Family Altars and Spiritual Legacy

One of the most powerful things you can do for your children is to build an altar in your home.

This does not mean you have to have a physical altar. It means you create a place of prayer. You create a rhythm of seeking God together. You make the presence of God a priority in your home.

Apostle Orokpo teaches that the priesthood is the most important function in marriage. The father is a priest in his home. The mother is like a Levite, supporting the spiritual life of the family.

When you prioritize prayer, you are covering your home in the Spirit. You are protecting your children from demonic influence. You are giving them a spiritual heritage that will sustain them even when they leave home.

Your children need more than instruction. They need encounter. They need to hear God for themselves. They need to experience His presence. A family altar creates the atmosphere for these encounters.

Raising Children Who Carry God's Purposes

Every child has an assignment. Before they were formed in the womb, God knew them. He ordained their destiny. Your job as a parent is to help them discover and fulfill that destiny.

Apostle Orokpo teaches that godly offspring are the reason for marriage. God is looking for children who will carry His purposes into the world. He needs vessels through whom He can advance His Kingdom.

This requires more than simply having children. It requires raising them intentionally. It requires discipling them. It requires praying over them. It requires prophesying their destiny into their lives.

Proverbs 22:6 says:

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

The way he should go means the path God has ordained for him. Not just a good path. The specific path. The path of his purpose. You must discover what God has written over your child's life and guide them toward it.

Leaving a Generational Inheritance

Your legacy is not just what you leave behind. It is what you pass down.

Apostle Orokpo teaches that marriage is a spiritual gateway for transferring inheritances and ordinations. When you marry correctly, you are preserving a lineage. You are protecting a bloodline. You are keeping the covenant alive for the next generation.

This is why you must be careful who you marry. It is not just about your happiness. It is about your heritage. If you marry someone who does not share your values, you risk diluting the inheritance. If you marry someone who does not carry the same spiritual DNA, you risk losing what God has entrusted to you.

Some bloodlines have patterns of sickness, poverty, or bondage. When you marry into those bloodlines, you inherit those patterns. You need the power of God to break them. You need the priesthood to overcome them.

But when you marry according to God's design, you are building a foundation for generations. Your children will carry the blessing. Your grandchildren will benefit from your obedience. Your heritage will stretch beyond your lifetime.

What This Means for You

You are not just building a marriage. You are building a legacy.

Every choice you make in your marriage has implications for your children. Every argument you avoid is a lesson in peace. Every forgiveness you extend is a lesson in grace. Every prayer you pray is a covering over their lives.

Apostle Orokpo says:

"You don't give birth to children because you are your father's only son and your lineage needs to continue. You give birth to children because, to a large extent, you have become like Christ. So you can impart Christ to somebody and send them into society as an errand."

This is the ultimate goal. You become like Christ. You raise children who become like Christ. You send them into the world as His ambassadors. And your marriage becomes a channel of blessing for generations to come.

Summary

- Your marriage shapes your children more than any other influence.
- Your home should be a kingdom outpost with a culture of prayer and honor.
- Family altars create an atmosphere of encounter and protection.

- Every child has a God-given purpose that parents must help them discover.
- Your marriage preserves spiritual heritage for future generations.
- Your legacy is the inheritance you pass down through faithful covenant.

Conclusion

Restoring God's Pattern for Marriage

We have traveled through deep waters. We have examined the foundations of marriage, the purposes of God, the roles of husband and wife, and the mysteries that make this covenant sacred.

Now we return to where we began: marriage is more than a feeling. It is a mystery. It is a calling. It is a covenant.

The world has lost this understanding. Marriage has been reduced to romance, to convenience, to personal fulfillment. When it stops delivering these things, people walk away. They treat covenant like a contract. They treat vows like suggestions.

But God's pattern remains unchanged. It has not shifted with culture. It has not bent to public opinion. It stands as it always has—eternal, unchanging, and sure.

The Standard Is Sure

Apostle Orokpo emphasizes throughout his teaching that God's standard is not negotiable.

"The standard of the Lord, the foundation of the Lord, stands sure. You can't blow that ground. You can't blow God's standard."

This is the anchor for your marriage. When feelings fade, the standard remains. When culture shifts, the standard remains. When your spouse fails, the standard remains.

You do not have the luxury of lowering the standard. You do not have the right to redefine marriage according to your comfort. God has spoken. His word is final.

You can build your marriage on this standard. You can trust it. You can rely on it. It will not fail you.

God's Design for Marriage

God's design for marriage is not a burden. It is a blessing.

When you follow His design, you are not being restricted. You are being protected. His laws are not arbitrary. They are wise. They are loving. They are for your good.

The husband's calling to love sacrificially is not oppression. It is the path to becoming like Christ. The wife's calling to submit is not humiliation. It is the path to reflecting the Church's relationship to her Lord.

Together, husband and wife create something beautiful. They display the gospel. They preserve godly heritage. They wield spiritual authority. They build a home that reflects Eden.

This is God's design. It is good. It is true. It is worth fighting for.

A Call to Obedience

This book has not been a collection of suggestions. It has been a call to obedience.

You have been given the truth. Now you must live it.

If you are a husband, you must love your wife as Christ loved the Church. You must lay down your pride. You must sacrifice your comfort. You must cultivate her potential and protect her heart.

If you are a wife, you must submit to your husband as the Church submits to Christ. You must trust God enough to let go of control. You must honor your husband even when he is imperfect. You must be a holy woman who trusts in God.

If you are single, you must wait for God's leading. You must not marry based on feeling alone. You must build your life on purpose and pursue the fear of God above all else.

Obedience is not easy. But it is the path to blessing.

The Reward of Faithfulness

When you obey God's design for marriage, you position yourself for blessing.

Your home becomes a place of peace. Your children become arrows in the hand of a warrior. Your legacy stretches beyond your lifetime. Your prayers carry weight in the heavenlies.

And, most importantly, you become more like Christ.

This is the ultimate reward. Not comfort. Not happiness. Not ease. Transformation. Christ-likeness. Glory.

Apostle Orokpo says:

"The goal of marriage is for everyone of us to become like Christ."

This is worth the sacrifice. This is worth the struggle. This is worth the cost.

A Final Encouragement

If your marriage is struggling, do not give up. God is not finished with you. He is not finished with your spouse. He is not finished with your home.

Return to His pattern. Return to His Word. Return to prayer.

If you are single, do not settle. God has someone for you. Wait for His timing. Trust His leading. Build your life on His purposes.

If you are already married and feel you made a mistake, do not lose hope. God can redeem what you thought was lost. Your marriage is now His purpose for you. Build it. Fight for it. Trust Him to restore what you cannot fix.

The same God who designed marriage is able to sustain it. He is able to heal it. He is able to make it a testimony of His grace.

A Prayer for Your Marriage

Heavenly Father, I thank You for the gift of marriage. I thank You that Your design is good and Your ways are true.

I ask for the grace to obey Your Word. Help me to love my spouse as You have commanded. Help me to submit as You have instructed. Help me to build a home that reflects Your glory.

Where I have failed, forgive me. Where I have hurt my spouse, heal the wound. Where I have been selfish, teach me to die to myself.

I declare over my marriage: It will not fail. It will not break. It will be a testimony of Your grace. My home will be a place of peace. My children will carry Your purposes. My legacy will honor You.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Appendix

Prayers for Marriage

This section contains prayers based on the teachings in this book. You can use them for personal devotion, for your marriage, or for your preparation for marriage.

Prayer for Singles Preparing for Marriage

Father, I thank You that You have a purpose for my life. I ask that You help me to build my life on You before I build it with anyone else.

Give me the discernment to know Your will. Help me to see beyond appearances. Guard my heart from unreasonable affections. Protect me from the pressure to settle.

Lead me to the one You have chosen for me. Help me to become the person they need. Prepare me for marriage. Prepare me to be a godly husband or wife.

I trust Your timing. I trust Your wisdom. I trust Your plan.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Prayer for Husbands

Father, I thank You for the gift of my wife. I ask for the grace to love her as Christ loves the Church.

Help me to die to my pride. Help me to put her needs above my own. Teach me to honor her, to defend her, and to cultivate her potential.

Forgive me for the ways I have failed her. Where I have been selfish, change me. Where I have been harsh, soften me. Where I have been neglectful, awaken me.

Let my prayers not be hindered. Let my relationship with You be reflected in my relationship with her. Make me the husband You called me to be.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Prayer for Wives

Father, I thank You for the gift of my husband. I ask for the grace to submit to him as the Church submits to Christ.

Help me to trust You enough to let go of control. Teach me to honor him even when he is imperfect. Give me a gentle and quiet spirit that is precious in Your sight.

Forgive me for the ways I have dishonored him. Where I have been disrespectful, change me. Where I have been independent, humble me. Where I have been critical, soften me.

Let my character win him without words. Let my submission be a sermon to those who watch. Make me the wife You called me to be.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Prayer for Marriage Restoration

Father, I bring my marriage to You. You are the restorer of broken things. You are the healer of wounded hearts.

I ask for healing where there is hurt. I ask for forgiveness where there is offense. I ask for unity where there is division.

Break every chain of the enemy over my home. Silence every voice that speaks division. Heal every wound that has been inflicted.

Help me to forgive as You have forgiven me. Help me to love as You have loved me. Help me to stay when everything in me wants to leave.

Restore my marriage. Make it a testimony of Your grace. Let it reflect Your glory.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Prayer for Children and Legacy

Father, I thank You that children are a heritage from You. I ask for the grace to raise my children in Your ways.

Help me to train them in the path they should go. Help me to discover their purpose and point them toward it. Help me to model for them what it means to love and honor You.

Protect them from the enemy. Cover them with Your presence. Fill them with Your Spirit. Let them become arrows in Your hand—sent to advance Your Kingdom.

Let my legacy be one of faithfulness. Let my children carry the inheritance I have received. Let generations yet unborn be blessed because I obeyed.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Prayer for Unity and Oneness

Father, I ask for the grace of oneness in my marriage. Help us to become one as You are one.

Remove every division between us. Heal every wound that separates us. Break every pattern that keeps us apart.

Help us to agree in prayer. Help us to agree in purpose. Help us to agree in love.

Let the power of Your Spirit flow through our union. Let our home be a place of encounter. Let our marriage be a testimony of Your presence.

Bind us together with cords that cannot be broken. Let the threefold cord—husband, wife, and Holy Spirit—be unshakeable.

In Jesus' name, Amen.