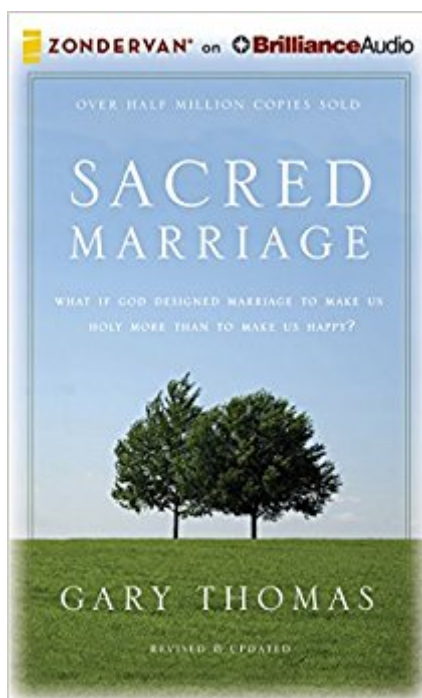


The book was found

Sacred Marriage Rev. Ed.: What If God Designed Marriage To Make Us Holy More Than To Make Us Happy?



Synopsis

Happy is good. Holy is better. Your marriage is more than a sacred covenant with another person. It is a spiritual discipline designed to help you know God better, trust him more fully, and love him more deeply. What if God's primary intent for your marriage isn't to make you happy but holy? Sacred Marriage doesn't just offer techniques to make a marriage happier. It does contain practical tools, but what married Christians most need is help in becoming holier husbands and wives. Sacred Marriage offers that help with insights from Scripture, church history, time tested wisdom from Christian classics, and examples from today's marriages. Sacred Marriage reveals how marriage trains us to love God and others well, how it exposes sin and makes us more aware of God's presence, how good marriages foster good prayer, how married sex feeds the spiritual life, and more. This revised edition of Sacred Marriage takes into account the ways men's and women's roles have expanded since the book was first written. It has been streamlined to be a faster listen without losing the depth that so many listeners have valued. Sacred Marriage uncovers the mystery of God's overarching purpose. This book may very well alter profoundly the contours of your marriage. It will most certainly change you. Because whether it is delightful or difficult, your marriage can become a doorway to a closer walk with God, and to a spiritual integrity that, like salt, seasons the world around you with the savor of Christ.

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Customer Reviews

Your marriage is more than a sacred covenant with another person. It is a spiritual discipline designed to help you know God better, trust him more fully, and love him more deeply. Scores of

books have been written that offer guidance for building the marriage of your dreams. But what if God's primary intent for your marriage isn't to make you happy . . . but holy? And what if your relationship isn't as much about you and your spouse as it is about you and God? Everything about your marriage--everything--is filled with prophetic potential, with the capacity for discovering and revealing Christ's character. The respect you accord your partner; the forgiveness you humbly seek and graciously extend; the ecstasy, awe, and sheer fun of lovemaking; the history you and your spouse build with one another--in these and other facets of your marriage, *Sacred Marriage* uncovers the mystery of God's overarching purpose. This book may very well alter profoundly the contours of your marriage. It will most certainly change you. Because whether it is delightful or difficult, your marriage can become a doorway to a closer walk with God, and to a spiritual integrity that, like salt, seasons the world around you with the savor of Christ. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Gary Thomas is a writer in residence at Second Baptist Church in Houston, Texas, and an adjunct faculty member teaching on spiritual formation at Western Seminary in Portland, Oregon. He is the author of several books, including *Sacred Marriage*, *Sacred Pathways*, *Pure Pleasure*, *Sacred Parenting*, and the Gold Medallion Award-winning *Authentic Faith*.

This has quickly become one of my favorite books. As a Catholic, I so appreciate how Gary Thomas touches on the lives of monks & nuns, as well as his references to St. Francis de Sales, one of my favorite saints. I also love how he mentions the Sacrament of Confession & how different it is to confess to a person vs. confessing to God. That's what I love (ha, ha - hate) about being Catholic - the sacraments. Confession is not the most pleasant experience but there is nothing like hearing the priest say "I absolve you of your sins". You can't help but walk away with a little more spring to your step & joy in your heart after an experience of tangible Grace.

My husband works as a counselor and deals so often with people in relationships or marriages that think the whole purpose of marriage is to make you happy.....and they are miserable and their marriages are crumbling. This book brings a godly, biblical perspective and a very real and straight-forward way that I think all Christian couples need to read. We can approach marriage very selfishly instead of seeing it the way God sees it. We are even discussing some of these concepts in our couples small group that my husband and I lead. Great book. I highly recommend it.

Great book. Every married Christian should read it. If nothing else re-read the subtitle daily, "What if God created marriage to make us holy rather than to make us happy?" That certainly fits relative to your actual experience doesn't it? It reminds you that marriage is NOT intended to completely fulfill you. That is what God does. Marriage gives you a wonderful opportunity to grow up, quit being selfish, learn to sacrifice what you want for what someone else wants, and quit waiting for your spouse to meet your every need. They can't. It is true, it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Helps view your marriage from a different perspective...Godly idea of a greater purpose of marriage. Overall the knowledge gained after reading this book increases your maturity level for relationships between husband and wife

This book is the best book out on shelves for marriage. I will give this out freely as a gift. My husband and I have been married for 25yrs and have many difficulties through out and I was just done with the whole thing and then I started reading this book and now I know that God is the one most important in my life and He knows my marriage. I know now that I will not leave this marriage because of what I have read in this book. If you don't know what to do in your marriage, get the book and read it and then let God love you.

I do like the book very much, only did not give it 5 stars because my hubby and I are not yet finished going through it, and also like a lot of inspirational authors, Thomas sometimes way overuses themes he's created in the book. I'm just skipping over the overused themes, but his points and stories are very helpful advice for couples, married or not yet. We live in such a "ME" focuses society, and one of his main points is that we need to focus on God and the other person in the relationship more than ourselves, and dig deeper to find out what the hard times in our relationships can teach us and how we can grow together as a couple towards God.

This is a really insightful look into our motives, needs and expectations that seem right and deserved. But when we get God's mind in our heart that ours is a fallen world and we can only overcome it by walking in His grace, peace and love. If we want change in someone or in relationship, start with ourselves and God. You really do reap what you sow, but we have a higher ability through God's Spirit in us to reflect forgiveness, patience and love we so much want and need from others but need to humbly receive for ourselves first. Haven't read the whole book yet-- but I know what I'm in for. (smile)

I'm only eight chapters in, but already I am seeing a positive change by applying the truths that Gary Thomas has laid out in this book. Everything is so plain and transparent. I love how he takes the very issues of marriage that seem so complicated and exposes the root of those problems so easily. This book truly points back to what the true intent of marriage should be and presents practical applications to help us achieve that. I had been searching for a book that would help exemplify a more profound and fulfilling purpose of marriage other than to just simply "make it work" or "to be happy". I without a doubt have found it in this book, even without getting halfway through. Can't wait to finish it.

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