

How to Storm Proof your Marriage

Matthew 7:24-27

“²⁴Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵“and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. ²⁶“But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷“and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”

In what way will the presence of Jesus Christ in your life make a difference in your marriage?

• Now let’s look at out text in **Matthew 7:24-27**.

1. This passage is talking about building your house upon a firm foundation.
2. List what you believe are **ten firm foundations** which will go into making a solid marriage relationship.

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| 1. | 6. |
| 2. | 7. |
| 3. | 8. |
| 4. | 9. |
| 5. | 10. |

I. To storm proof your marriage you need to be prepared for the **culture** that you are living in.

Verse 25, “and the rain descended...”

• Just as the heavy rains soak everything in sight, the culture that we live in permeates our homes, our families and our marriages.

1. We need to be alert to alternative lifestyles.
2. We need to be aware of is sexual immorality.
3. We need to be aware of is economic pressures and materialism.

II. To storm proof your marriage you need to be prepared for the **crises** that you live through.

Verse 25, “and the rain descended, the floods came...”

Isaiah 43:1-2 say, “¹But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I *will be* with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you.”

A. First when the floods of problems come **relax** in **God's plan**.

“...Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine.”

B. Second when the floods of problems come we need **recognize God's presence.**

“²**When you pass through the waters, I will be with you...**”

C. Third when the floods of problems come we need **rely on God's protection.**

“...**I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you.**”

III. To [storm proof your marriage](#) you need to be prepared for the **changes** that you live with.

Verse 25, “and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.”

I Peter 4:12 “¹²**Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you.**”

Matthew 5:45 “... **He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.**”

Jesus is not our escape from storms, but our stronghold in the storm.

Marriage “Red Flags”

These things are signals that could eventually lead to the failure of a marriage. Remember, it takes TWO people with God’s wisdom, to make a successful marriage. It only takes ONE person to ruin it! If either of you has a problem with any of these things, GET IT FIXED IMMEDIATELY! If necessary, get help! If not, it may well cost you your marriage!)

1. One spouse cares more about keeping the kids happy than keeping his/her spouse happy
2. One spouse enjoys being with someone else more than with his/her spouse
3. One spouse has an anger problem
4. One spouse expects to get his or her way most all the time
5. One spouse flirts with someone other than his/her spouse
6. One spouse is not willing to work on improving the marriage
7. One spouse is not interested in learning the other’s needs
8. One spouse takes the other for granted
9. One spouse is not interested in spiritual growth
10. One spouse does not treat the other with basic politeness and does not show basic respect
11. One spouse is not interested in meeting the other’s sexual needs
12. One spouse seeks to pressure the other into doing things that are uncomfortable for him/her.
13. One spouse tries to manipulate the other with guilt or threats
14. One spouse is addicted to drugs, alcohol, gambling, or pornography
15. One spouse is not willing to do his/her part for the financial well being of the marriage
16. One spouse is not willing to share significantly in chores and work around the house
17. One spouse almost always expects the other to apologize when there are misunderstandings
18. One spouse blames the other for his or her own irresponsible behavior (e.g., “You make me get angry!”)
19. One spouse is consumed with jealousy. (A desire to protect your spouse from others is healthy unless it turns into irrational, uncontrolled jealousy!)
20. One spouse desires to completely control the behavior of the other spouse.

