

## *A Miracle for Married Couples in Crisis*

*Jeffrey J. and Jill A. Williams*

*“If God wants to give you a miracle for your marriage would you be willing to receive it?”* Few couples say no. Admittedly, it’s a bit of a loaded question that puts both their faith and their will on the spot. It’s also a quick way to distinguish between couples that are willing to receive help from beyond themselves, and those that have already decided to quit or lack hope and faith that their relationship could be healed.

Couples that say no are shown to the door, and told that we be happy to see them if they change their minds. In our experience it is a waste of time and energy to try to help couples that don’t want help and who aren’t open to supernatural input into their marriage. It’s our way of acknowledging the limits of what we have to offer, and staying focused on couples that want help and have potential to bear fruit.

A lot of time and energy is wasted trying to help people that don’t want help. It’s not our place to try to accomplish something in other’s lives when they don’t invite it, and it’s not effective. We have no ability to soften or convict the human heart. When we’ve tried it has been a mutual exercise in frustration, and has probably done more harm than good by stiffening resistance. If couples say no we accept their answer, and then pray for God to cause and allow whatever necessary to get them into position to be willing to receive from Him.

Lasting positive change is something that only God can initiate and sustain.<sup>1</sup> We can plant seeds and water them, but only He can make them grow.<sup>2</sup> We can pray in faith for immeasurably more than we or couples can ask or imagine<sup>3</sup> but if they are not willing to engage God themselves with willingness to receive miraculous tenderizing of their hearts with compassion, willingness to forgive, to love and to keep trying with a teachable spirit, then neither our efforts or His won’t be effective.

The more common reply from 90% of couples is, *“Absolutely. I’ll do anything”* or *“It’ll take a miracle, but yes, I’d be willing to receive it.”* Even if one partner is non-committal about receiving a miracle the process can be helpful as long as both partners come for sessions. Sometimes the Holy Spirit leverages the humility of the willing partner to soften the reluctant partner.

At the point a couple indicates willingness to receive a miracle from God its game on. We roll up our sleeves and begin unpacking proven concepts and skills, beginning with heart and hope. *“Two-thirds of what you need is something that we can’t do for you and you can’t do for yourselves. To get where you need to go will require ample heart, hope and skills. Heart and hope are from God. Only the God-man, Jesus can make and keep your heart humble, teachable, forgiving, compassionate and responsible. And only He can give you the gift of faith to hope for what you cannot see and what you are not*

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<sup>1</sup> Philippians 1:6

<sup>2</sup> I Corinthians 3:7

<sup>3</sup> Ephesians 3:20

*currently experiencing. All we can do is to facilitate you through the process by creating opportunities for you to engage Him and each other in a way that will make it possible for you to think and feel differently about yourselves and your marriage than you do now.”*

The bad news is that a lot of marriages are in trouble. The good news is that God has answers and that many couples who have believed for a miracle now have the marriage of their dreams.

*How about you? Would you be willing to receive a miracle for your marriage if God wants to give that to you?*

*\*For more information about marriage coaching, training classes and seminars, visit [www.graceandtruthrelationship.com](http://www.graceandtruthrelationship.com), write [info@graceandtruthrelationship.com](mailto:info@graceandtruthrelationship.com), [jeff.gtre@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.gtre@gmail.com), [jill.gtre@gmail.com](mailto:jill.gtre@gmail.com), or call Jeff or Jill at 301-515-1218.*

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