

SURVIVING MARITAL STORMS

Extreme Home Makeover For Couples - Part 12 of 12

“Everyone who hears these words and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rains came down, the floods rose and the winds blew against the house; yet it didn’t fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.”

Matthew 7:24-25

BE PREPARED FOR . . .

1. “Rains” -- The Culture You Live In.

“In the last days it is going to be very difficult to be a Christian ...People will become utterly self-centered, greedy for money... proud and abusive...They will be utterly lacking in gratitude... normal affections... self-control, and will be violent and loving pleasure instead of loving God.” 2 Timothy 3:1-4 (LB/Ph)

Ideas that can erode your marriage:

- _____ “self-centered”
- _____ “greedy for money”
- _____ “loving pleasure . . .”

“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but be a new and different person...” Romans 12:2 (Living Bible)

2. “Floods” -- The Crises You Will Live Through.

“Save me, O my God. The floods have risen. Deeper and deeper I sink in the mire; the waters rise around me. I have wept until I am exhausted.” Psalm 69:1-3 (Living Bible)

What to do:

“(God says) don’t be afraid . . . when you go through deep waters and great trouble I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown!”

Isaiah 43:1-3 (Living Bible)

- _____ in God’s plan
- _____ God’s presence
- _____ on God’s protection

3. “Winds” -- The Changes You Will Live With.

“To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.” Ecclesiastes 3:1 (KJV)

“Sometimes it takes a painful situation to make us change our ways.” Proverbs 20:30 (Good News)

“I have learned to be content, whatever the circumstances may be ... I am ready for anything through the strength of Christ who lives within me.” Philippians 4:11, 13 (Ph)

Foundation for a Storm-Proofed Marriage

“God has placed Jesus Christ as the one and only foundation, and no other foundation can be laid.”

1 Corinthians 3:10