

CouplesInBloom.com – Naked With Nothing

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We are born naked and with nothing; likewise when we die, we have nothing with us ⇒ Job 1:21. **Imagine being naked and owning absolutely nothing!** The Bible tells us to prioritize eternal things over temporary things ⇒ 2 Corinthians 4:18. Everything seen will be *gone* as soon as we meet God, so that only what is unseen now will remain then. God kindly lets us know this in advance so that we who trust Him can live correctly now.

God's Word applies to life today, not just to Heaven. The phrase "naked with nothing" may seem negative, perhaps 'ashamed with lack'. The truth is that "naked with nothing" is freeing and positive. We are all naked before God ⇒ Hebrews 4:13; nothing is hidden: physical, emotional and spiritual. *Naked*: unobscured truth; *with nothing*: unassisted. **Naked with nothing** means **ALL of oneself BY oneself**. It is the epitome of intimacy.

Naked with nothing in this article focuses on intimate communication, *not* on absence of clothing and items, which other Scriptures address. Consider the following definitions:

- **Nakedness**: communicating intimacy *without hiding relevant aspects about oneself*.
- **With Nothing**: communicating intimacy *without using tangible objects to do so*.
"I think these don't matter", someone says. "I think these are necessary", another says. We need to know how our response compares to God's definition of communication.

Hiding relevant aspects about oneself divides the heart into on- and off-limit areas. Everything *divided* will fall ⇒ Luke 11:17. Conditions contradict intimacy: into-me-see becomes *partially*-into-me-see. God hates partiality ⇒ Psalm 119:113; Ephesians 6:9; James 2:9 because it is impure; mixed motivation. God defines love to include *all* of our heart, soul and strength. Strength literally here is vehemence; God is serious about purity.

Using tangible objects may be a positive *extension* of communication, but cannot be communication *itself*. Intimacy is about the heart. Needing to use impersonal objects (e.g. flowers, fantasies, etc.) to relate intimately reveals personal inability to communicate. God defines love by personal interaction, not impersonal ⇒ Matthew 7:21-23, which says our personal interactions prove if we love Him, *and* determine whether we go to Heaven.

Marriage application: intimacy increases as communication becomes more and more "naked with nothing". **Naked** spouses *know* each other (see the word *know* in Matthew 7:23). They give to each other and receive from each other **with nothing else required**.

How can my marriage have this? Answer: **Include your spouse in your situations**, just as God includes you, as the Bride of Christ. **Relationships** require people to *relate*.

Do not hide from your spouse; God says He will never leave us ⇒ Deuteronomy 31:6. **Do not excuse** your guilt from spouse; God speaks the truth openly ⇒ Mark 8:32. This is **nakedness with nothing**: fully including your spouse in the full honesty of yourself and your situations. **Example: In a disagreement**, do not limit your conversation to the issue. **Include**: *your love* for your spouse; *your sadness* about the wall it made between you; *your longing* to be unified; *your awareness* that the enemy wants this issue to divide you. **Not including** your spouse *separates* you, which is how and where **blockages** come in! **Don't do that!** Instead, **live in fullness**: be **naked with nothing**. ♥ Loren & Kathy Falzone