

CouplesInBloom.com – What Newlyweds Do

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Revelation 2:4-5 ⇒ “But I have against you that you left your **first love**. Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent, and do the **first works**, *or else* I will come to you quickly and will remove your lampstand out of its place unless you repent.”

God explains consequence from action and how to fix it; it relates to Him *and* marriage:

1. *Action*: gradual **de-prioritization** of our highest priority: choosing to love the other.
2. *Consequence*: sudden **negative visitation** by the one we neglected to choose to love.
3. *Fix*: full turn-around **re-initialization** of choosing thoughts and actions that minister **specifically** to the other instead of mere **general** good works, fruit, and discernment.

This Scripture was written to hard workers! ⇒ Revelation 2:1-3 yet their **general** good works (God commended them for) *threatened* their salvation / spiritual marital status (!) and probably their marriages, too... *because* they did not love their lover **specifically** ⇒ Matthew 25:35-45; 7:21-23; 1 Samuel 15:22. **True love is always specific, not general.**

God never leaves or forsakes us ⇒ 1 Kings 8:57-61, but we can make God divorce us ⇒ Revelation 2:5. ‘Sudden’ divorces are not sudden; just the announcement is sudden. God gave His Bride opportunity: ‘**unless you repent**, I will remove your lampstand (your status as my holy church / my Bride)’. Some marriages are saved by this part of God’s pattern. “**I will visit you quickly**” means two things: 1) “**you**” are not with *Him* so *He* has to find *you*, and 2) “**quickly**” means **fast**; the old is old news; it is **now** time to act anew.

What Newlyweds Do is prevent this mess by giving their **first love** their **first works**. This results in a completely better scenario than the one in ⇒ Revelation 2:4-5 above:

1. *Action*: our lifestyle **prioritizes** the **specifics** of our lover over the **general** stuff of life.
2. *Response*: we sow and reap sudden **positive visits** by our prioritized lover.
3. *Reaction*: our specifically loved lover **reciprocates initialization** of **specific** love.

God calls our **first works** to our **first love** a high place, and He says to remember them and return to doing them again. Spiritually, this means to live openly in the **specific** love and joy of the Lord which is our strength, and **not** to be weakened by the **general** stuff of life ⇒ Nehemiah 8:8-10; Luke 10:38-42. These also teach us about our marriage:

Both spouses should answer these questions: **spiritually** and **maritally**: Y=Yes N=No

- ♥ Do you love when your lover shows up? ⇒ 2 Timothy 4:8
- ♥ Is your joy of your lover strengthening to you? ⇒ Nehemiah 8:10
- ♥ Do others see you two walking in unity and intimacy? ⇒ Song of Songs 8:5
- ♥ Do you speak the delights of your lover back to them? ⇒ Song of Songs 7:6
- ♥ Do you prioritize the **specific** ministry of kissing your lover (your public affection for God and for your spouse) as assuredly more important than the **general** despise of others about such **first works** to your **first love**? ⇒ Song of Songs 8:1
- ♥ Are you ashamed of what God calls good? ⇒ Romans 1:16; Genesis 2:25; Psalm 22:5; 34:5; 119:116

Heaven is for newlyweds only! and so are ‘heavenly’ marriages: **those who gladly give their first works** to their **first love**. Let your lamp shine brightly! ♥ Loren Falzone