



# 422B1

BIBLE-BASED



CHRIST-CENTERED RELATIONSHIPS

*Keeping Your Vows While Keeping Your Vows*

PART 3: Q, Q&A • BY INGO SORKE, PHD



## Quotes, Questions & Answers

### 1. What do you think about counseling?

*If Christian-based on Bible-oriented, it can help people. However, in my experience it has also made matters worse. Here some actual quotes from church members who have contacted me:*

- "Pastor, can you help? We have already spent thousands on counselors.
- "We have already been to two counselors."
- and, sadly, more than one suicide despite counseling and pharmaceutical intervention. It is not uncommon for people to seek multiple counselors, over long periods of time, with no fundamental change.
- "We tried counseling. It didn't work. We're done." *If counseling is not successful, the couple might conclude their marriage is hopeless.*

### So, what is your best marriage advice then?

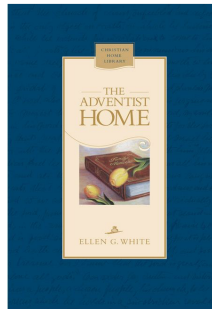
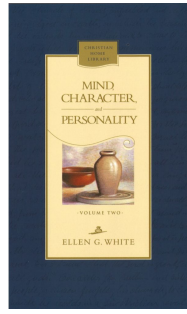
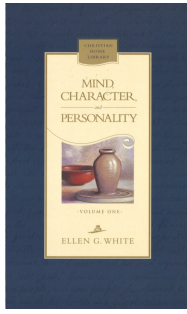
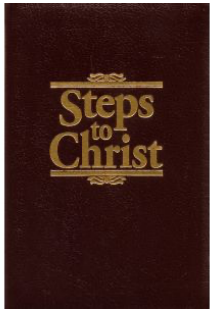
### GO DIRECTLY TO JESUS! And read the Gospels and put yourself in the story!

*Eternity.* Just a little perspective . . . By the time you get married you are 20, +-. The average person lives 70-80 years. That's 50 years of marriage. Don't risk eternity over 50 years. Or 50 minutes. That is disproportionate.

*Jesus.* We can directly turn to Jesus: **"As the flower turns to the sun, that the bright beams may aid in perfecting its beauty and symmetry, so should we turn to the Sun of Righteousness, that heaven's light may shine upon us, that our character may be developed into the likeness of Christ" (SC 68).**

"In the **vision given me June 12, 1868**, I was shown the danger of the people of God in looking to Brother and Sister White and thinking that they must come to them with their burdens and seek counsel of them. This ought not so to be. **They are invited by their compassionate, loving Saviour to come unto Him, when weary and heavy-laden, and He will relieve them. In Him they will find rest. In taking their perplexities and trials to Jesus, they will find the promise in regard to them fulfilled. When in their distress they feel the relief which is found alone in Jesus they obtain an experience which is of the highest value to them.** Brother and Sister White are striving for purity of life, striving to bring forth fruit unto holiness; yet they are only erring mortals. Many come to us with the inquiry: Shall I do this? Shall I engage in that enterprise? Or, in regard to dress, Shall I wear this or that article? I answer them: You profess to be disciples of Christ. Study your Bibles. Read carefully and prayerfully the life of our dear Saviour when He dwelt among men upon the earth. Imitate His life, and you will not be found straying from the narrow path. We utterly refuse to be conscience for you. If we tell you just what to do, you will look to us to guide you, instead of **going directly to Jesus for yourselves.** Your experience will be founded in us. You must have an experience for yourselves, which shall be founded in God. Then can you stand amid the perils of the last days and be purified and not consumed by the fire of affliction through which all the saints must pass in order to have the impurities removed from their character preparatory to receiving the finishing touch of immortality" (2T 118.3).

And . . .



---

## 2. Was David's marriage to Bathsheba approved by God?

**“Hata maombeloezo hayo yalipokwisha, Daudi akatuma mtu, akamtwaa, akamtia nyumbani mwake; naye akawa mkewe, akamzalia mwana. Lakini jambo lile alilolitenda Daudi likamchukiza BWANA.”**

“And when her mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD” (2 Sam 11:27).

Another cover-up!

Irony: ““David **sent** and gathered her to his house.” ← vv. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6, 14, 18, 22

Parallel with Abigail: 1 Sam 25:39-42

Interestingly, David and Bathsheba have another child - Solomon, the wisest man on earth, and ancestor to the Messiah!

---

## 3. Quotes I have actually heard . . .

“I am just tired.”

“My wife shows no interest in me.”

“We have changed so much.”

“We don’t communicate.”

“I married the wrong person.”

“I never really loved my wife.”

“I don’t trust him anymore.”

*What are you thinking/saying?!*