

MARRIAGE QUOTES—PIPER AND CRABB

PIPER QUOTES

“Marriage exists to magnify the truth and worth and beauty and greatness of God; God does not exist to magnify marriage. Until this order is vivid and valued—until it is seen and savored—marriage will not be experienced as a revelation of God’s glory, but as a rival of God’s glory.” ~John
“Here is the key that unlocks a 1,000 doors. Superior satisfaction in God above all earthly things, including your spouse, and your health, and your own life, (Your steadfast love is better than life. Psalm 63:3), is the source of great long-suffering without which husbands cannot love like Christ, and wives cannot follow like the bride of Christ, the church...Both of those complementary acts of love—to lead, and to submit—are unsustainable for the glory of God without a superior satisfaction in all that God is for us in Christ.”

“The power and impulse to carry through the self-denial and daily, monthly, yearly dying that will be required in loving an imperfect wife and loving an imperfect husband must come from a hope-giving, soul-sustaining, superior satisfaction in God. I don’t think our love for our wives or theirs for us will glorify God until it flows from a heart that delights in God more than marriage. Marriage will be preserved for the glory of God and shaped for the glory of God when the glory of God is more precious to us than marriage.”

“To think that marriages could be lived for His glory by teaching on the dynamics of relationships, when the glory of God is so peripheral, is like expecting the human eye to glorify the stars when we don’t stare at the night sky and have never bought a telescope.”

CRABB QUOTES

“Christ has made me secure and significant. Whether I feel it or not, it is true. I am instructed by God to believe that my needs are already met, and therefore I am to live selflessly, concerned only with the needs of others. The more I choose to live according to the truth of what Christ has done for me, the more I will come to sense the reality of my security and significance in Him.”

“Love is essentially defined in terms of preoccupation with the other’s needs. The central goal of every interchange between partners must be to minister to the other’s deepest needs for security and significance. I may legitimately desire a particular response from my wife. But if my spouse, for whatever reasons, fails to respond as I wish, then I must honor my goal of ministry through an uncomplaining, non-pressuring acceptance of my disappointing spouse.”

“Husbands do not make wives secure; wives do not make husbands significant. Only Christ can do this. And He does so the moment a person places his or her trust in Him as Savior and Lord. But husbands and wives can help convince their partners of their value and bring them to fuller enjoyment of their riches in Christ...The couples who develop substantial Soul Oneness grasp the excitement of the ministry of marriage. To be able to profoundly influence another human being in a way that promotes a fulfilling awareness of their wholeness in Christ is a thrilling opportunity. A sovereign God has selected me from among all the billions of men who have ever lived for a ministry to which He has called no one else: the ministry of loving my wife with the unique committed love of a husband. How sad to think of the responsibilities of husband or wife as mere obligation or duty!”

“Unless we deliberately adopt the goal of ministry on a moment-by-moment basis, our natural, reflexive goal will generally be to manipulate our spouses for our advantage.”

“The power of God is indispensable to altering one’s commitments meaningfully. Until I am aware that my needs are already met in Christ, I will be motivated by emptiness to meet my needs. When by simple faith I accept Christ’s shed blood as full payment for my sins, I am brought into a relationship with an infinite Being of love and purpose who fully satisfies my deepest needs for security and significance. Therefore I am freed from self-centered preoccupation with my own needs; they are met. It is now possible for me to give to others out of my fullness rather than needing to receive from others because of my emptiness. For the first time I have the option of living selflessly.”