

In *Two Are Better Than One*, Greg and Julie Gorman present surprisingly fresh truths to make a difference in your marriage and life. If you want your marriage to live into the purpose God desires, read this book.

—DRS. LES & LESLIE PARROTT,
authors of *Saving Your Marriage Before It Starts*

Greg and Julie Gorman have written a classic in marriage books that brings a beautiful balance of timeless teachings from the world's top thought leaders and combines them with interactive scenes from our favorite Bible heroes. In *Two Are Better Than One*, Greg and Julie present fun, fresh and frank truths to lead you on a journey of significant discovery that will elevate your expectations and provide direction for your most precious earthly relationship—your marriage. Every couple will celebrate as they discover God's purpose for their marriage.

—STEPHEN ARTERBURN, Founder and Chairman of New Life Ministries; host of the #1 nationally syndicated Christian counseling talk show *New Life Live!*; host of New Life TV (tv.newlife.com); Founder of Women of Faith conferences; bestselling author

Two Are Better Than One is anchored in God's Word and packed full of insights and hope for a stronger and better love in marriage.

—TIM CLINTON, EdD, author and President
of the American Association of Christian Counselors

God has afforded me to engage with thought leaders and content creators around the world. As I read *Two Are Better Than One*, I realized yet another personal benefit of a great book. Greg and Julie have done two great and unusual things in this book. They have demonstrated authenticity and vulnerability in every page. Secondly, they have given more than theory and ideas; they give practice and applicable tools to make your marriage better than ever.

—MARK COLE, CEO, John Maxwell Enterprise

This book is jam-packed with great ideas for renewing purpose, direction, and energy in your marriage! Whether you've been married for five or fifty years, Julie and Greg will walk you through creative ideas to generate discussion and new ideas with your spouse. Don't miss these great insights.

—SHAUNTI FELDHAWN, social researcher, national speaker,
and bestselling author of *For Women Only*

Hope, help, and healing. What keeps us from living out God's best purpose for our marriage? I believe we lose hope, we refuse help, and we sometimes doubt that healing is possible for us. And yet, God offers each of these to us because they're absolutely necessary in marriage. As you work your way through this book may you allow fresh hope to arise within you. May you be humble enough to receive the tangible help the Gormans offer here. And may you open your hands and ask God to heal your souls and make you whole. As you dare to draw near to each other and to God, you will know a fresh passion and purpose in your marriage that your souls have always longed for.

—SUSIE LARSON, talk-radio host, national speaker,
and author of *Your Beautiful Purpose*

What if God has a BIG IDEA for your marriage—and it's all about purpose and power, not pettiness and pain? With personal stories and biblical wisdom, Greg and Julie Gorman show how you can catch God's big idea and use it to transform your marriage.

—SHEILA WRAY GREGOIRE, award-winning author of *The Good Girl's Guide to Great Sex* and *9 Thoughts That Can Change Your Marriage*

We love the proactive passion, inspiring intentionality, and creative connecting of Greg and Julie Gorman. With their practical insights, *two* are *better* than one!

—PAM AND BILL FARREL, codirectors of Lovewise,
authors of 40 books, including the bestselling
Men Are Like Waffles, Women Are Like Spaghetti

"Greg and Julie reveal surprisingly fresh truths to help couples discover God's purpose for their marriage."

DRS. LES & LESLIE PARROTT

#1 New York Times best-selling authors
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Greg and Julie Gorman

BroadStreet Publishing Group, LLC
Racine, Wisconsin, USA
www.BroadStreetPublishing.com

TWO ARE BETTER THAN ONE
God Has a Purpose For Your Marriage

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ISBN-13: 978-1-4245-5144-6 (softcover)

ISBN-13: 978-1-4245-5145-3 (e-book)

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Cover design by Chris Garborg, garborgdesign.com
Typesetting by Katherine Lloyd, theDESKonline.com

Printed in United States of America

16 17 18 19 20 5 4 3 2 1

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A NOTE FROM GREG AND JULIE

Dear friends,

Google estimates that over 129 million books exist in the world today—congrats and thanks for picking up this one. We're so glad you did and we know you won't be disappointed. After all, you're about to experience an incredible shift in the way you view your marriage.

So let's begin by saying that two really are better than one. No doubt you've heard that before, but you'll find the message contained in this book surprisingly fresh, fun, and frank. As a matter of fact, we've remained extremely zealous to only present truths we know will make a difference in your life and in your marriage. We won't try to convince you of anything; we'll simply deliver the evidence compiled from working with hundreds of couples over nearly two decades. So be ready to grow and be stretched.

As you read through the pages of this book, we'll lead you on a journey of significant discovery. We plan to stretch your thoughts and elevate your expectations concerning your most precious earthly relationship—your marriage. Both you and your spouse hold a distinct purpose together. God designed and destined your marriage for greatness. He hardwired your spouse and your DNA, combining them together with the intent of birthing something truly amazing—your marriage purpose. Though you probably have never considered that your marriage holds a specific purpose, and the thought of defining it may even seem a bit overwhelming, discovering your marriage purpose doesn't need to be complicated. In fact, we intend to show you just how simple it can be.

Along your journey, we'll share clues to help you discover your

secret treasure, and we'll provide charts to help you safely navigate and stay on course during your voyage. Each chapter contains specific sections aimed to help you grow:

- A Timeless Truth to serve as a compass to point you in the right direction.
- A Discovery from God's Word and A Deeper Look at Scripture to provide strong anchors to keep you from drifting off course.
- Questions, Introspective Challenges, and Intentional Applications sprinkled throughout the chapters to personalize your journey and deepen your discovery.
- Thoughts from Leaders to bestow additional wisdom, insight, and breakthrough.
- We also transparently share our personal journey of discovery, as well as stories from other couples, to remind you that you aren't alone. In an effort to protect the privacy of friends, family, and coaching clients, however, names have been modified, but each story highlights true experiences from couples we've encountered throughout our marriage.
- At the end of each chapter, we've included a Study Guide filled with additional Questions, Scriptures, and Simple Prayers to enrich your communication and enhance your experience together.

Please be sure to connect with us. We'd love to hear what you discover as the singular purpose for your marriage. You can connect with us by visiting our website at GormanLeadership.com, where you'll also find valuable resources to encourage you in your marriage journey and additional materials to print off to assist your discovery process.

Finally, we want to thank you for allowing us the privilege of

journeying with you on this momentous voyage. Please know that we have prayed for you. We thoroughly believe God designed and destined you and your spouse for a specific purpose—that only the two of you can accomplish together. We can't wait for you to discover it. We believe with all our hearts that *Two Are Better Than One*.

Greg and Julie

Chapter 3

DO YOU LIVE PROBLEM FOCUSED OR PURPOSE FOCUSED?

A Timeless Truth

You find what you are looking for.

Thought leaders from Baptists to Buddhists agree on one central truth (though expressed in a variety of ways): We become what we think about, we get what we expect, and we find what we are looking for. Our thoughts hold power, they impact our results, and they shape our outcome. Our thoughts influence our relationships and control how we interact with others. They affect who we become.

King Solomon, the wisest dude who ever sported a pair of flip flops, said it this way: “As a man thinks in his heart, so he is.”¹ The key is to take this profound revelation and apply it to our every day by governing what we entertain and controlling our thoughts. Though it may seem like a self-improvement mind game, in actuality it’s God’s invitation to a higher level of thinking and a shift in your focus.

Stay with us for a moment and consider the weight of this truth. If King Solomon and every other thought leader is right, that we

become what we think about and that our outcome begins in our mind-set, then if we constantly focus on our issues we unwittingly perpetuate the subject of our thoughts, which is the problem. However, if we harness our thinking to align with God's, embracing the truth that we are created on purpose for a purpose, we reap the benefits of living fully and powerfully in the design He destined for our lives and marriage.

A Thought from Napoleon Hill

*Every man is what he is, because of the dominating thoughts which he permits to occupy his mind.*²

In his book *Good to Great*, Jim Collins and his team collected a total of ten and a half people years of research.³ After scores and scores of studying good-to-great companies, alongside of comparison companies, Jim writes, "Greatness is not a function of circumstance. Greatness, it turns out, is largely a matter of conscious choice."⁴

Greatness is a matter of choice; we truly become what we think about and we create what we envision. Our focus largely determines what we produce. Think about it: Artists create masterpieces gathered from their ability to envision their end product, and athletes win medals largely determined by mental strength. David faced Goliath, not by matching brute strength with brute strength, but by the shift in his thinking. His focus clearly determined his victory.

A Discovery from God's Word

You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.⁵

The morning began like the last thirty-nine. For forty days, Goliath hurled insults defying Israel. With a snakelike sneer and a gut-curling laugh, Goliath jabbed and jeered, invoking Israel to war: “C’mon and fight me, you pathetic, sniveling, circumcised weaklings! I’ll tie one hand behind my back, wear a blindfold, and still plunder your treasures by midday. Is there no man among you?”

We can’t go on like this, Saul thought, pacing back and forth. “Who’ll go to war against this monstrosity?” Suddenly, Saul stopped wringing his hands: “Wait! I’ve got an idea to incite a hero.” His declaration quickly scurried throughout the camp to everyone except the ruddy teenager, David. David had other things on his mind: an urgent message from his father.

“Eliab! There you are,” David exclaimed. “How are we doing?” In typical fashion Eliab turned away, annoyed by David’s presence.

Unbothered, David ran to greet his next two eldest brothers. “Abinadab! Shammah! Father said to tell you...” But before David finished his sentence, the Philistine champion from Gath shouted another taunt.

David thought to himself, *Who does this guy think he is? Why hasn’t someone shut up his foul mouth?* Then David demanded, “Somebody, please tell me what’s going on!” Though David’s stature paled in comparison to the average Israelite, something about his tenacity intrigued a small crowd of Israelites. A short, stubby soldier piped up: “Do you see that big dude? Every day he challenges Israel. The king promised great wealth, exemption from taxes, plus his daughter’s hand in marriage to the man who kills him.”⁶

David looked at Goliath still spitting and frothing at the mouth, his frayed dreadlocks and razorlike fangs reminding David of the lion he’d fought last week. “Run that by me one more time.” Then he thought, *You’ve gotta be joking; I’ll do that for free!*

David rejected the conventional wisdom of swords and shields, passing them up for his trusted shepherd's weapon: "Five smooth stones and a sling ought to do the trick." David defied Goliath's insults, shouting back, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied."⁷

What was David's defining difference? Surely he recognized the weapons formed against him, right? Surely David saw Goliath's size, sword, and spear. Goliath was big, mean, and ugly. The difference wasn't what David didn't see, but in where he placed his focus. While others contemplated their defense, David took the offense. While Israel's most valiant warriors cowered, cringing, feeling helpless and defenseless against Goliath's superior swordsmanship and brute strength, Goliath's nine-foot-nine-inch stature never deterred David. Instead, David focused on God and Goliath was no match for Him.

Sure, Goliath was big, but not big enough. Sure, the giant caused men to shake in the natural, but his size was no challenge to the Living God. Put side by side, Goliath was a small speck, a tiny flea, an inconsequential little pimple compared to the Breather of stars, Designer of galaxies, and Creator of time itself. Undaunted, David set out to decapitate the abomination who dared to defy his family, his countrymen, and most importantly His God. While others saw the problem, David saw the solution.

The same holds true for us and our marriage. We find what we're looking for, we become what we think about, and we get what we expect. We truly do gravitate toward what we contemplate, and it affects every area of life.

THE QUESTION

Do you live problem focused or purpose focused?

The last thing Greg wanted to do was spend Saturday morning in the doctor's office. It had been a long week. The last thing Joshua wanted was a sore throat. Reluctantly, they decided to skip breakfast and quickly jumped in the car to beat the rush to the walk-in clinic. Traffic seemed heavier than normal; then again, Greg wasn't usually out of the house by 8:00 a.m. on Saturday. "I'm starving," Josh said, with a raspy voice. "Let's get Subway."

"We need to hurry and get to the doctor before it gets too busy. We'll grab something when we're done," Greg said hurriedly.

A couple miles down the road, Josh said, "Dad, I never noticed how many Subways there are. They're everywhere—I've counted seven!"

Greg laughed. "Yes, isn't that funny, buddy?" he said. "We find what we're looking for, don't we?"

How about you—have you ever noticed that? You're a little hungry and every commercial on the television advertises restaurants, tempting you with luscious scenes of decadence. You go car shopping and buy a blue Honda and, like magic, suddenly blue Hondas appear everywhere. You find a new blemish or wrinkle on your face, and now every time you get in front of a mirror, it's all you can see.

Here is the question: Do you live problem focused or purpose focused? Getting what we focus on in marriage is fine and well, unless the subject of our marital thoughts centers on our problems. His dirty socks lying beside the laundry hamper, her stories consisting of too many details, his constant interruptions interjected amidst her ideas, the way she talks, the way he chews, the way he or she never does this or that. Or sometimes couples become consumed by weightier issues, like Kaden and Mia did.

A Shift in Thinking

Kaden fidgeted slightly, rubbing his hands against his freshly pressed jeans, his silence at first misinterpreted as disinterest. Mia, on the other hand, couldn't wait to talk about the problems in their

marriage. For an hour and a half, she reflected on the various turning points of their marriage, how they met, what was lacking in their relationship, and the ongoing confusion surrounding it. After two and a half decades of marriage, they had a lot to talk about—frustrations, disappointments, obstacles needing hurdled, but none more impeding than their separation for the last two years.

Finally, Kaden spoke up. He fixed his eyes on ours, fearful of Mia's response. "I want to make things work but I need Mia to forgive me." Immediately, Mia's countenance changed. She shifted in her chair and crossed her arms. Kaden continued, rather timidly: "I know I've really messed up and that it's hard for Mia to trust me. But I'm at a loss and feel powerless to fix it."

Mia rolled her eyes and shook her head. "Well, that's the first time you've ever said that," she blurted out, then sat rigidly awaiting another occasion to point the blame. Kaden's long battle with porn addiction and lack of interest in Mia, sexually, provided fertile soil for roots of anger and bitterness to plant firmly in Mia's soul. Instinctively, she kept her guard up.

After hours of asking questions to reveal the occurrences that led them to where they were, it was time to move forward on common ground. "Do you want to get better?" Greg asked. "Do you want this marriage to work, or do you want to keep on doing what you've been doing and let your relationship fail?"

Stunned, Mia sat forward and bravely said that she wanted it to work. Kaden concurred and over the next two days we helped them discover and define their unified purpose. Their focus evolved from being problem focused to purpose focused as they embraced this simple truth: Each of them held a distinct God-given purpose, and so did their marriage. The result was that Kaden moved back into their home.

Isn't it astonishing what a shift in thinking promotes when we resist the temptation to focus our attention on what is lacking, what

needs improving, and what needs to be fixed? It is truly amazing when we change the subject of our thinking from the Goliaths of the world, the obstacles, and the problems, to focus on the solution. As couples, we experience a greater fulfillment and intimacy when we keep the purpose of our marriage at its center.

Don't be confused. We aren't saying problems, adversity, and conflict don't exist; unfortunately, they're a part of every relationship. However, the solution, the triumph, and the victory for our marriage hinges on our ability to shift our focus from our personal Goliaths to the magnitude of God's power and purpose for our relationship. When couples begin to shift their attention from the problem and focus on living God's purpose, life happens.

A Deeper Look at Scripture

In his book *Think on These Things*, John C. Maxwell writes, "How you think determines who you are. That's why Scripture directs us to be careful about where we focus our attention."⁸ Time and time again throughout Scripture, God teaches this principle and encourages us not to be conformed to the world, but to be transformed by the renewing of our mind,⁹ and to put off the old man with all its deceitful ways and be renewed in the spirit of our mind.¹⁰

In Philippians, Paul writes, "Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things."¹¹ One of the greatest ways we participate with God is by yielding our thoughts to Him. Contrary to popular belief, we are not powerless to our thoughts.

AN INTROSPECTIVE CHALLENGE

In what ways do we easily focus on God's power, provision, and purpose? In what areas do we need to redirect our attention?

The Bible promises that “God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.”¹² Scripture assures us that as couples we can demolish arguments and destroy every lie opposing who God says we are. How do we do this? Only by capturing our thoughts and making them obedient to Christ.¹³ When Goliath snarls and says your marriage isn’t strong enough, you can smile and reply that God is. When Goliath says you’ll never accomplish that together, you simply reply that God says we can. And when Goliath says you don’t own enough resources, point to heaven and remember where your help comes from.

God formed you for such a time as this. He designed you distinctly for a purpose and equipped you with everything you need to complete it. His divine power gives you everything you need to fulfill your marriage purpose.¹⁴ Your strengths, weaknesses, and even your lineage all play a part in God’s masterful design to shape, prepare, and then position the two of you to fulfill His intended design together. He’s inviting you to embrace your collective design by focusing your attention on His intention for your marriage, to exchange your problems for His ultimate purpose.

A Thought from Stephen R. Covey

*We see the world, not as it is, but as we are—or, as we are conditioned to see it.*¹⁵

We gravitate toward what we contemplate, so naturally when we focus on our problems, we reap the subject of our focus—the problem. When we search for opportunities to live out God’s design, we look for and find our purpose.

A great philosopher, Michel de Montaigne, once wrote, “The secret of a happy life is to live for a dream that is bigger than you are.”¹⁶ Do you dream for something bigger than you are? What consumes you and your spouse’s thoughts? Do you live more problem

focused or purpose focused? Don't answer for your spouse. Consider your own thoughts.

AN INTENTIONAL APPLICATION

Stop focusing on the problem. Instead, focus on your ideal marriage. Envision what you'd like your marriage to look like, align that vision with God's Word, and then live it out.

Since our thoughts hold power and where we place our focus largely determines our outcome, it's vital we understand our tendencies. The following exercise was designed to help you determine your natural pattern of thought. Take a moment to evaluate your current trend of thinking by highlighting whichever statement best describes your natural inclination. As with any test, you may try to categorize the different areas of your life and get confused. Don't get caught up with thoughts like, *When I'm in a family situation I'm more like this, but if I'm at work I tend to be more like that.* Rather, highlight your answers with a specific regard to your marriage relationship. Make note of where your thoughts focus most frequently.

Remember, the following tool is meant to help you, not condemn you. It displays two contrasting checklists to discern if you live more problem focused or purpose focused in your thoughts.

TWO ARE BETTER THAN ONE

PROBLEM FOCUSED	PURPOSE FOCUSED
I see my spouse's shortcomings, flaws, and weaknesses.	I see differences in me and my spouse that complement and balance one another.
My spouse's idiosyncrasies constantly annoy me.	I extend grace because I need grace. I choose to believe the best about my spouse, celebrating his or her design.
I tend to complain about the present and the past.	I intentionally practice praise, looking with positive expectancy toward the future. I'm not bound by unforgiveness.
I feel hindered.	I focus on God's promises because they offer me strength and hope.
I lack clarity and am confused by current circumstances.	I am seeking clear direction and certainty of where I want to go.
I tend to see glitches, hitches, and difficulties.	I practice an attitude of gratitude and praise.
I contemplate and point out ways my spouse should change.	I ask God to help my spouse live fully into His design for his or her life. I choose to focus on how I can improve, knowing I can only change myself.
I feel trapped.	I see options and seek God to make positive changes in my life.
I justify my actions by pointing to my spouse's.	I refuse to keep a scoreboard and take accountability to change and grow.
I regret marrying my spouse.	God designed a purpose for my marriage and uses it to make me stronger.
Our past and present circumstances hinder us from serving others.	The entirety of our life serves a purpose.
We spend the majority of our time trying to fix one another.	We practice healthy self-examination and genuinely seek to grow together.
I feel burdened to make things happen.	I'm faithful where God positions me.
I often pray, <i>Surely there must be more to life than this.</i>	I most often pray, <i>Father, open the doors You want me to walk through.</i>
I tend to compare and compete, feeling unworthy or inadequate.	I embrace our unique designs and love using our talents for God's glory.

Now tally the number of times you highlighted a purpose-focused statement and compare your number with the sections identified below.

- If you scored 13–15, congrats! You firmly believe God destined you for greatness and aren't intimidated to live it. You master your thoughts. More than likely, people single you out as an optimist. You probably hold a keen idea of God's purpose for your life and love your marriage. Keep up the good work and maintain your humility. You're well on your way to discovering God's exact purpose for your marriage if you haven't already.
- If you scored 10–12, bravo! You generally believe God designed you for a distinct purpose. You tend to focus on what is good over the bad and aren't afraid to practice discipline to ensure you control your thoughts. You enjoy your spouse and share great expectancy toward your future. You truly desire significance, yet at times find yourself lost in the specifics. No worries. Continue to take every thought captive to the cross and, in due time, you will reap great rewards. Keep on keeping on—your distinct marriage purpose awaits you.
- If you scored 7–9, you're a fighter, determined to press forward. You often find yourself frustrated, wanting to be further along and more free in your thoughts—but don't get discouraged. Use your energy to meet with God in prayer. Invite Him to continue to change the things that need to be changed. When you can't change the way you feel, you need to change the way you think. Practice believing the best about your spouse. Speak the power of God's Word over your relationship. Choose to believe that God designed a purpose for your marriage and you

will find it. We are so excited for you to experience greater breakthrough throughout the remainder of this book.

- If you scored 6 or below, then recognize that your natural tendency focuses on the problems that seem to bombard you in your everyday thinking. You try to be positive but feel powerless to the problems surrounding your life. At times you may feel forgotten, defeated, or shortchanged. You may readily recognize obstacles or barriers out of your control that keep you from moving forward in the direction you want to move. Remember, God has not given you a spirit of timidity but the power of a strong mind. Submit your thoughts to Him in prayer. Take time every day to meditate on the truth that God created you and your spouse on purpose and for a purpose. Claim the promises of His Word and never give up. God uses all things for the good of those who love Him.¹⁷ He fights for you and will help you protect what the Enemy tries to steal. You truly are destined for greatness. God designed a purpose for you and your spouse, and we can't wait for Him to reveal it to you.

A Thought from John C. Maxwell

Your life today is a result of your thinking yesterday.

Your life tomorrow will be determined by what you think today.¹⁸

Our thoughts become our actions, our actions become our habits, our habits become our character, and our character defines who we are. Who we are determines *how we do everything*. Thus, the power of our focus truly impacts our outcome. True, our Goliaths are big, but our God is bigger, and He's still in the giant-slaying business. His purpose for our marriage already exists and He will equip us, fill us, and empower us to live life to its fullest.¹⁹

But, like David, we must participate. Aristotle said, “We are what we repeatedly do.”²⁰ So let’s repeatedly align our thoughts with God’s perspective. How do we do this? By praying daily, meditating on His Word, and then demonstrating our faith by focusing on His purpose for our marriage, not the magnitude of the problem.

Study Guide: Chapter 3

Our thoughts become our actions, and our actions produce results. If we want different results in our life and different results in our marriage, then it begins with a change in our thoughts. As you and your spouse talk together, ask God to show you the ways you need to change your thinking from being problem focused to purpose focused.

Questions to Consider

1. We judge others by their actions and their results, but we judge ourselves by our intentions. As a couple, how can you practice believing the best about one another?
2. Jesus said, “Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.”²¹ Ask, Do we really believe this passage? And, if so, What keeps us from dreaming together? How can we begin to believe bigger? (For example, does comfort stop you, do you allow the everyday status quo to hold you back, or do setbacks discourage your belief?)
3. Continue asking, *God, what do You want us to believe together?*
4. In what practical ways can you shift your focus from fear and problems to God’s power and purpose for your marriage? (For example, we try to recognize and verbally

celebrate each day's successes. We constantly evaluate our *whys*, like, Why are we participating in this activity? or, Why do we serve in this area?)

5. What checkpoints can we establish to recognize old habits so we can remove them and move toward purpose-focused living?

Scriptures to Study

- ◆ Proverbs 23:7
- ◆ Matthew 18:18–20
- ◆ Mark 12:31
- ◆ John 10:10
- ◆ Romans 12:1
- ◆ 2 Corinthians 10:5–6
- ◆ Ephesians 4:22–24
- ◆ 2 Peter 1:3
- ◆ Philippians 4:8
- ◆ 2 Timothy 1:7

A Simple Prayer

Father, help us to focus on who You are, not on our giants. Help us to truly see one another's best qualities. Show us how our unique designs and differences further Your purpose. Help us to live purpose focused, not problem focused, and empower us to truly discover Your purpose for our marriage and then live it out in our everyday lives. In Your name we ask, amen.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

GREG AND JULIE GORMAN, authors of *What I Wish My Mother Had Told Me About Marriage* have been teaching biblical truths for marriage for nearly two decades. They are the founders of Gorman Leadership, a faith-based organization committed to providing life-transforming content and pathways to sustainable growth. Together they write, produce, and host weekly broadcasts, and are certified by Dr. John C. Maxwell as executive coaches and trainers. As LifePlan Facilitators with the Paterson Center, they empower believers to discover God's fingerprint design for their lives and assist married couples to discover the purpose God has for their marriage. They, along with their three children, make their home in southern Florida. Connect with Greg and Julie at GormanLeadership.com.

Chapter 3: Do You Live Problem Focused or Purpose Focused?

- 1 Paraphrased from Proverbs 23:7.
- 2 Napoleon Hill, *Think and Grow Rich* (Radford, VA: Wilder Publications, 2007), 43.
- 3 Jim Collins, *Good to Great* (New York, NY: HarperCollins, 2001), 9.
- 4 Ibid., 11.
- 5 1 Samuel 17:45.
- 6 Paraphrased from 1 Samuel 17:25.
- 7 1 Samuel 17:45, NKJV.
- 8 John C. Maxwell, *Think on These Things* (Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press, 1999), 9.
- 9 Romans 12:1.
- 10 Ephesians 4:22–24.
- 11 Philippians 4:8.
- 12 2 Timothy 1:7.
- 13 2 Corinthians 10:5–6.
- 14 2 Peter 1:3.
- 15 Stephen R. Covey, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People: Powerful Lessons in Personal Change* (New York, NY: Free Press, 2004), 28.
- 16 Quoted in Bruce and Darlene Marie Wilkinson, *The Dream Giver for Parents* (Sisters, OR: Multnomah Publishers, 2004), 43.
- 17 Romans 8:28.
- 18 Maxwell, *Think on These Things*, 13.
- 19 John 10:10.
- 20 Aristotle, accessed December 7, 2015, <http://www.goodreads.com/quotes/603119-we-are-what-we-repeatedly-do-greatness-then-is-not>.
- 21 Matthew 18:19–20.

Chapter 4: How Does God Confirm His Purpose?

- 1 Genesis 12:1–2.
- 2 Ibid.
- 3 Winston Churchill, accessed December 7, 2015, https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/2834066.Winston_Churchill.
- 4 Warren, *The Purpose Driven Life*, 20.
- 5 Isaiah 45:1.
- 6 v. 2.
- 7 v. 13.
- 8 Psalm 119:105.
- 9 John Ruskin, accessed December 7, 2015, https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/1606.John_Ruskin.
- 10 2 Chronicles 16:9.

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