

There are demonic attacks on Marriage and the Family

There was published recently an interesting piece about [demonic attacks](#) on the family by an Italian exorcist.

When we observe married couples having trouble, we pray for them and try to support them. We know that it is God's design that a man and woman leave their parents to come together and form a couple. As they enter into Marriage and Family Life, their differences are part of God's design. They "provoke" each other to love more, to become better, to overcome selfish impulses, and to learn to really be attentive to the other, note the other's needs, and serve the other's good, while also manifesting appreciation to the other for their efforts.

Daily appreciation of the other builds the other up. Meanwhile, one is called by the Lord to carry one's cross. Someone has to begin. It is proper for the man to take the initiative, again and again, in this ongoing process of relating and building one another up.

When there is serious trouble, dispute, serious hurt, anger, or separation, I would recommend that he

1. accept to endure the suffering of their situation,
2. put aside considerations for himself and turn his concern to her,
3. constantly pray for her not so much that she return to him (selfish view) but for her good,
4. resolve to accept whatever happens as the will of God,
5. often fast or do other forms of penance, again for her good,
6. but also fast one day a week to atone for his faults and neglect,
7. go to confession regularly to confess his faults and neglect as he remembers instances of these,
8. daily ask the Father to reveal to him his will, even as Jesus did himself on Earth, and
9. ask Jesus for the desire to do the will of the Father, and
10. ask the Holy Spirit to give him the grace to walk with Jesus,
11. the grace to trust in the Father's love, and
12. the grace to be at peace.

While Marriage is a covenant before God, it needs to become Matrimony, that is, a daily renewal in practice of the desire and commitment to lay down one's life at the service of the other and in time of their children. At no point can the spouse be taken for granted just because they committed. While in common speech we use expressions such as "my wife" and "my husband", in reality, each remains free and only continues to be wife or husband because each day anew they "choose" to be so.

Much resentment in a young or older married woman generally is generated by neglect on the part of the other. Layer after layer, day after day, it accumulates and becomes toxic. She needs to be cleansed, purged, purified, and this is God's work. All he can do is pray, repent, suffer, and trust in God. His only way to love her now is to suffer for her, do penance for her, fast for her, and pray for her; all the while letting go, letting die, all his selfish, self-considering, thoughts and feelings. He needs to make a true man of himself, with the grace and love of God, and become a just man, like Saint Joseph and all the holy men of the Bible.

Meanwhile all those involved can ask the Lord to deliver the couple from the attacks of the devil and his cohorts and, more importantly, plead with the Lord to glorify Himself in this couple through the renewal of their minds, hearts, and souls.

For what it's worth....