

**Series:** Before & After You Say "I Do"

**Message:** When You Encounter A StaleMate, Part 1

**Scripture:** Selected Scriptures

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God's Word teaches that there is always reason to live responsibly regardless of what may go wrong.

The believer can always be assured that God and His grace will be sufficient in any and all circumstances and that obedience to Him during those times will always be the best course of action.

Larry Crabb

"The hope of the believing spouse is far deeper than a mere change in their partner – their hope is inescapably bound up in the grace of God."

**Judges 11:34-35a**

*<sup>34</sup> When Jephthah came to his house at Mizpah, behold, his daughter was coming out to meet him with tambourines and with dancing. Now she was his one and only child; besides her he had no son or daughter.*

*<sup>35</sup> When he saw her, he tore his clothes ...*

**Numbers 14:6**

*<sup>6</sup> Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, of those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes;*

**Acts 14:11-14a**

*<sup>11</sup> When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they raised their voice, saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have become like men and have come down to us."*

*<sup>12</sup> And they began calling Barnabas, Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker.*

*<sup>13</sup> The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds.*

*<sup>14</sup> But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their robes...*

Anyone who has access to God Himself never has reason to regard anything as a disaster worthy of provoking a sense of despair.

1 Peter 2:9-10

*9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;*

*10 for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.*

Romans 8:28

*28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.*

Elisabeth Elliot

"Will the young woman find a mate? Will the couple have a child? Maybe this year will be the year of desire fulfilled. Perhaps, on the other hand, it will be the year of desire radically transformed, the year of finding, as we have perhaps not yet truly found, Christ to be the All-Sufficient One, Christ the deep sweet well of Love."