

The Family Time

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2 Samuel 22:33 - God [is] my strength [and] power: And he maketh my way perfect.

2 Samuel 22:34 -He maketh my feet like hinds' [feet]: and setteth me upon my high places.

2 Samuel 22:35 -He teacheth my hands to war; so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms.

2 Samuel 22:36 -Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy gentleness hath made me great.

2 Samuel 22:37 -Thou hast enlarged my steps under me; so that my feet did not slip.

Husbands, wives, families need a special strength to meet the challenges of life. It is however not possible for us to meet these challenges on our own. The percentages of failures today reveal the difficulty.

McKinley Irvin is the Pacific Northwest region's largest family law firm, providing exceptional legal counsel and support to families for more than two decades. With offices in Seattle, Bellevue, Tacoma, Vancouver, and Portland, McKinley Irvin is a leader in all facets of family law including [divorce](#), [child custody](#) and support, alternative dispute resolution, and military family law.

The McKinley Irvin Family Law Firm published on their website on Oct 30, 2012 the following statistics:

“Most people already know that around 50 percent of marriages in the United States end in divorce. The number is similarly high in many other developed nations.

- 41 percent of first marriages end in divorce.
- 60 percent of second marriages end in divorce.
- 73 percent of third marriages end in divorce.
- The average length of a marriage that ends in divorce is eight years.
- The average age for couples going through their first divorce is 30 years old.
- **If your parents are happily married, your risk of divorce decreases by 14 percent.**
- **People who wait to marry until they are over the age of 25 are 24 percent less likely to get divorced.**
- **Living together prior to getting married can increase the chance of getting divorced by as much as 40 percent.**
- Forty-three percent of children growing up in America today are being raised without their fathers.
- Seventy-five percent of children with divorced parents live with their mother.”

Shaunti [Feldhahn](#), in her book entitled: *“The Surprising Secrets of Highly Happy Marriages The Little Things That Make a Big Difference”* gives an interesting statistic:

53% of Very Happy Couples agree with the statement, "God is at the center of our marriage" (compared to 7% of Struggling Couples).

30% of Struggling Couples disagree with the statement, "God is at the center of our marriage."



These statistics reveal a serious lack. As we have said before, too often marriage is not approached in the right way

To gain a proper understanding of the marriage relation is the work of a lifetime. Those who marry enter a school from which they are never in this life to be graduated. *{AH 105.1}*

However carefully and wisely marriage may have been entered into, few couples are completely united when the marriage ceremony is performed. The real union of the two in wedlock is the work of the after years. *{AH 105.2}*

In the book *Amazing Grace*, Chap. 252 –Entitled: All-Sufficient, page 260 and paragraph 4 says:

Man has little power, and can accomplish but a small work at his very best. . . . God is omnipotent, and at every point where we need divine help and seek for it in sincerity, it will be given. God has pledged His word that His grace will be sufficient for you in your greatest necessity, in your sorest distress. Christ will be to you a present help if you will appropriate His grace. *{Amazing Grace 260.4}*

In the same book *Amazing Grace*, Chap. 254 –entitled: Gives Limitless Strength, page 262 and paragraph 2 says:

We have little idea of the strength that would be ours if we would connect with the Source of all strength. We fall into sin again and again, and think it must always be so. We cling to our infirmities as if they were something to be proud of. Christ tells us that we must set our face as a flint if we would overcome. He has borne our sins in His own body on the tree; and through the power He has given us, we may resist the world, the flesh, and the devil. Then let us not talk of our weakness and inefficiency, but of Christ and His strength. When we talk of Satan's strength, the enemy fastens his power more firmly upon us. When we talk of the power of the Mighty One, the enemy is driven back. As we draw near to God, He draws near to us. *{Amazing Grace 262.2}*