



Creating an Intimate Marriage: Rekindle Romance Through Affection, Warmth and Encouragement

Jim Burns , Stephen Arterburn (Foreword)

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It's Not Too Late to Find Intimacy and Fulfillment

Don't settle for mediocre when it comes to satisfaction in marriage--pull out all the stops and discover the joy of true intimacy! This book will help you take back the life you dreamed of when you said your vows and experience the joys of an awe-filled marriage. Jim Burns' honest and vulnerable writing coupled with practical advice will inspire you to reconnect with the most important person in your life: your spouse.

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Jostalady says

I have read several books with similar advice. This one adds a religious element that may appeal more to a certain audience. I did not feel the author was qualified beyond having a successful marriage to be an authority. Nothing wrong with the common sense advice offered here, I have seen it over and over in relationship books-so it must have value.

Michael Romans says

Dr. Jim Burns writes a pretty good book on marriage. On the whole, however, it was fairly repetitive. He outlines early on in the book its core thesis of A.W.E in marriage. That is that marriages need affection, warmth, and encouragement. He then spends the rest of the book applying these three ideas to different facets of married life. Persistently this idea is underpinned with the admonition that you we are too busy and need to slow down in life in order to really get the best out of our marriages, or life in general.

For the most part Dr. Burns advice is helpful and practical. Despite its repetitiveness I would gladly suggest this book to a married, or soon to be married couple, who were wanting to practical advice on how to strengthen their marriage.

Jason says

My wife and I read this book together. I thought it was a good book, and I appreciated that it had a Christian aspect to it. I would recommend this book to anyone who is married and wants to invest in improving their marriage.

Jayson Bradley says

I didn't finish this, so maybe in the last two chapters Jim Burns pulls an amazing M. Night Shyamalan twist, and it's magically good. I am not going to stick it out and see. This book is hackneyed and trite. Any marital book that focuses on techniques at the expense of true insight needs to be burned.

Jeanette Dick says

Very goood

This book is very good but needs tips. On how to get your spouse to read and follow the methods kit this book.. when only one person in the marriage has issues with the relationship

Glen says

This book focuses on marriage dynamics from a Christian perspective. It is simple, positive and practical. There are questions at the end of each section designed to spark reflection and discussion. The feel is much like a marriage enrichment seminar but noticeably missing a lot of the helpful worksheets.

A change in personal attitudes is presented as the key catalyst for greater friendship and romance in your marriage. Each chapter has a number of suggestions with anecdotal support to illustrate how the principles can work. At times the narrative is tedious because it contains ample cliches yet it also has an uplifting message to those who may feel trapped in negative cycles.

There are direct references to the issues of betrayal and addictive behavior, but the writer openly states that these challenges require specialize counseling and ongoing work that falls outside the scope of this work. Most of the writer's attention is spent delving into the prioritizing of time and the creating of simple routines that will cultivate friendship (leading to romantic intimacy).

For couples seeking an accessible handling of basic relationship building activities, this is a good start. It does have Scripture references, is succinct in its contents and remains true to the goal of offering practical advice.

David says

Jim Burns shares some valuable suggestions and insights throughout the book. Thankfully he doesn't come across as arrogant or as a "know it all." Be forewarned that his perspective and frame of reference is very religious and decidedly Christian, in case that's problematic for you.

Tasha says

This is my first "marriage book" so wasn't sure what to expect. I was pleasantly surprised. It could be that I am just energized from his positive attitude and optimistic outlook but I'm hoping it's more than that and this will go to good use and not fizzle out in a few weeks when I get tired of "working on it". I guess marriage is like everything else in life... you get out of it what you put into it.

My most favorite, thought provoking moment from this book was... "What would you like to come home to if you had been at work all day?" And yes I know we work too but this just really caught me off guard and made me aware of the fact that as much as I like to think I do a good job of putting myself in his shoes, I REALLY SUCK at it!!

Anyway, we both read it so I am really eager to see where we let it take us!

Scott Bamford says

Excellent Relationship Book

This was a very thorough, honest, and transparent book. Jim does a great job using his own life experiences to illustrate issues, solutions, and ways of handling things.

Sheri says

Although I wasn't thrilled with the format and overall style of writing, this book is packed with scripture and practical application for kindling an intimate marriage. How lovely married life would be if I always treated my sweetheart with affection, warmth, and encouragement!

Here are a couple quotes I took away:

- Far too many couples settle for mediocrity in their marriage when they would never settle for second-best in other areas of their life.
- One of the greatest problems in American marriages and family life, is this breathless pace at which we live our lives.
- You can't build a home (or anything else) from the wrong set of blueprints. Marriage is a God-ordained and God-sustained institution.
- Isn't it amazing that two fairly normal and actually pretty nice people can get married and treat each other like complete idiots? (makes me laugh!)
- Greet him with a hug and at least a fifteen-second passionate kiss. =)

Jonathan Widell says

The author is generous in divulging intimate details of his own marriage. I am pretty sure that defeats the purpose of creating an intimate marriage. I hate this kind of how-to manuals but at least have a good time hating them. What his advice ultimately comes down is to seek professional help. I am not making this up. He says time and again that the reader should seek the help of a marriage counsellor. The book does a good job of putting the emphasis on marriage. It is not about children or work or whatever, but about one's spouse. That does not seem to be such a novel idea but how easy it is to forget that. And God.

Kelly says

Sadly not for me I got this as a free download glad I did not pay. It was advertised as a non religious book

but it is very religious which put me off. I'm not a faith follower and the book seemed to want you to be. Like that was part of the way to create a intimate marriage. Not recommended for non faith followers

Sojana says

Enjoyed a lot this book! I like the way it is organised. The author gives a lot of personal experiences on how to grow together as a couple. I really liked the lessons where he had put some very good advises to become more intimate with your spouse. At the end of each chapter there was a number of questions and heart to heart homework to do with your husband/wife.

I loved how everything discussed in the book could be put in practice, through the good counsels the author lined up. Also, answering the questions or doing the homework together would bring on more communication and encouragement in the marriage.

The thing i enjoyed the most was that this was the first book we read as a couple. I think it's great to read and share with your spouse this kind of books, which gives you advises how to become more close to each - other.

Would recommend this book to every couple from newlyweds to married-for-decades couples because it gives you some really good counseling through the challenges each marriage has. You will definitely like and find it very helpful!

Carol says

my husband really liked the book

Rex Libris says

I got this one as a freebie through BookBub. It is a good book and what the author writes about makes a lot of sense mostly because it is a lot common sense that we lose track of in our hectic lives. His "system" is to put "AWE" back in your marriage. Treat your spouse with affection, warmth, and encouragement. While it does seem like common sense, Jim Burns takes the time to spell out in more detail what affection, warmth, and encouragement really are.
