



LIFE-giving relationships

- **Breaking destructive soul ties**

Lindsay Roberts

- **Life lessons from our marriage**

Evelyn Roberts

- **Etiquette tips for weddings and wedding gifts**

Colleen Rickenbacher

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I believe our relationships with our family and friends are of the utmost importance. But our most important relationship of all is the one we have with our Heavenly Father. In these seemingly unsteady times with families in crisis and a seemingly unstable economy, we need connections that uplift us and bring us life. That's why I've put together this issue to showcase life-giving relationships and how important we are to each other, and to celebrate those close, loving connections in our lives. Mother's Day will be here soon, and I am grateful to God for my precious daughters, and for this ministry's faithful friends and partners.

I believe my article, "Breaking Destructive Soul Ties," can help you see clearly how we must be led by the Holy Spirit in daily life, and how connecting ourselves with people who are not being led by the Spirit could have a negative impact on us. Then I share a sweet article by my mother-in-law, Evelyn Roberts, who

offers precious insight on merging marriage and ministry in "Life Lessons From Our Marriage." My husband Richard's article, "Lifting People Up," showcases the story of the Good Samaritan and reminds us that we are not here on this earth to put people down, but to lift them up—to show them the love and compassion of Jesus Christ.

I encourage you today, don't put off finding the most loving and fulfilling relationship you can ever have—the one with your Heavenly Father. Spend time with Jesus! Remember, He longs to spend time with you. Make that time count! Renew your relationship with God daily through His Word, your prayers, and your praise.

I'm blessed to call you my friends, and I pray you make it count today for the Kingdom of God!

Lindsey



Breaking Destructive Soul Ties

Until you make a conscious decision to ask God to help you break that destructive soul tie off your mind, will, and emotions, that relationship may not be behind you. You could still be carrying the remnants of it with you into relationships and the decisions you make today.

by Lindsay Roberts

Somewhere along the line, a lot of relationships that started out working fine have gone haywire.

Your Spirit and Your Soul

God has given each of us a *spirit* and a *soul*. Your spirit is your inner man, and it comes directly from God. Because God is a spirit, He created us with a spirit so we can worship Him fully and completely. When your earthly body dies, it is your spirit that becomes absent

from your body and present with the Lord (2 Corinthians 5:8).

Your *soul* is the realm which includes your mind, your will, your emotions, and your decision-making processes. It is your soul that makes the decision whether to submit to the kingdom of God or not. It is your soul that determines the outcome of your relationships. In other words, *those to whom you tie your soul can influence the direction in which you go.*

God's perfect design for mankind puts the spirit in the position of

rulership above the soul. That was His original plan, but Adam showed how hard it can be to keep your spirit in the position God intended.

Spirit Comes Before Soul

When Adam sinned in the Garden of Eden, he allowed his soul to overrule his spirit. Just like Adam, if you begin to listen to your soul instead of your spirit, you can set the stage for making wrong decisions. You may be led by the actions of your mind, will, and emotions, rather than being led by God through your spirit.

Soul Mate or Sour Mate?

When it comes to the close relationships in your life, you knit your soul to another person's as the relationship grows. You develop a *soul tie* to that person.

If God's Spirit is ruling your soul and the soul of the person in the relationship, then both of you can be properly led in the decision-making process.

The danger comes when you knit yourself to someone who is not allowing the spirit of God to lead them. That person can pull down your soul so much that they eventually pull down your spirit. *That's a destructive soul tie.*

Even when that friendship or relationship is no longer a part of your life, it can continue to have an influence on your soul.

Breaking the Connection

Perhaps you've left a tough friendship or an abusive situation or gotten out of a bad relationship, thinking that would end your connection with that person. But until you make a conscious decision to ask God to help you break that destructive soul tie off your mind, will, and emotions, that relationship may not be behind you. You could still be carrying the remnants of it with you into the relationships and the decisions you make today.

I believe that when our souls are not right with God, it's difficult to feel, think, perceive, or reason what a right relationship should be. But when our souls are right with God, He can give us sound, solid judgment to make wise, godly decisions in every area of our lives—including our relationships.

King David once cried out to God, "Restore to me a right spirit," because he had gotten himself into a sinful mess (see Psalm 51:10). Just as God did with David, He can restore in you a right spirit, a clean

When our souls are right with God, He can give us sound, solid judgment to make wise, godly decisions

spirit. And you can have a “clean slate” in the realm of your soul and your spirit to begin again.

Start Right Now

I believe you can get your soul into a right relationship with God right now, as you begin to bless the Lord. Psalm 103:1 says, *Bless the Lord: O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.*

Your soul was created to magnify the Lord. When you bless the Lord with your total self, you can receive all of His benefits: He can forgive your sins, He can heal all of your

diseases, He can redeem your life from destruction, He can surround you with His love and tender mercies, and He can fill you with good things (Psalm 103:3-5).

As you bless the Lord, ask Him to break any destructive soul ties you may have in your life. Then begin renewing your mind daily with the Word of God. You can let the washing of the water of God’s Word begin to transform your life as you allow God to speak to your spirit and lead you into creating new and healthy relationships in Him. ✨



It's Time for a Miracle

by Richard and Lindsay Roberts

No matter what mountain you're facing, no matter how desperate the situation or how long you've struggled with it, with God it's always time for a miracle! These four messages from Richard and Lindsay Roberts can help you find wholeness in your life. Includes: *Getting Your Prayers Answered* by Richard Roberts, *God's Way of Thinking* by Lindsay Roberts, *Healing and the Holy Spirit* by Richard Roberts, *You're Full of It* by Lindsay Roberts. To order: visit our online bookstore at www.oralroberts.com or call 918-495-7777. **\$20**

Etiquette tips for Weddings and wedding gifts

by
Colleen Rickenbacher, CMP, CSEP

At this time of year, weddings seem to fill everyone's calendar, so let's talk about gifts, showers, and invitations.

How Many Gifts?

Have you ever received invitations to two showers and a wedding, all for the same bride and groom? Obviously you're expected to take a gift, but the question is, How many gifts do you have to give?

Really, you need to give only one gift. The bride should always be very respectful of people's time and money and invite them to only one shower.

Wedding Gift Costs

A note to the bride and groom: When you register for wedding gifts, keep in mind that not everyone can afford expensive gifts. Select gifts that are in all price ranges so people will be comfortable attending your shower

or wedding and not feel like they could not attend because they couldn't afford an expensive gift.

Who Is Invited?

If your name and no other is on an invitation, then only you are being invited. If you take a guest, you need to contact the person who is hosting the shower or the reception and ask permission. Don't assume it's all right to take someone. Let the host or hostess be the deciding factor.

Remember that good etiquette means always considering other people's feelings and making sure they are comfortable with what you are doing. ✨

Author of "Be on Your Best Business Behavior," "Be on Your Best Cultural Behavior," and "The Big Book of People Skills Games," Colleen Rickenbacher has her own company as a speaker, author, trainer, and consultant. For more information, log on to www.oralroberts.com and click on Broadcasts – Special Guests.



COOKING *with Jordan*



GRILLED BRATWURST AND VEGGIES

My favorite summer pastime is grilling. I can't get enough of it! I could grill every day and never run out of ideas. My favorites are sausages and veggies.

Ingredients

1 package beer bratwurst
(or sausage of your choice)
1 large bundle of asparagus
Extra virgin olive oil

portobello mushroom caps
(or any desired mushrooms)
red and yellow bell peppers
salt and pepper to taste

Directions

Spray grill when it's off with grill spray or a little oil to keep the brats from sticking. Cut the red and yellow peppers in large pieces, big enough to keep from falling through grill grates. Toss all the veggies (including mushrooms) in olive oil, salt, and pepper. Do not use too much oil, just enough to coat them lightly. Toss the veggies on the grill together next to the brats, for about 10–15 minutes at a medium heat. Keep them moving if places start to scorch. Serve piping hot!



CARROT CAKE

Ingredients

1 8oz can of crushed pineapple
2 cups flour
1 cup white sugar
1 cup packed brown sugar
2 tsp baking soda
1 ½ tsp cinnamon
¼ tsp salt
4 eggs
1 cup vegetable or canola oil

2 cups shredded carrots
1 cup chopped walnuts

ICING:

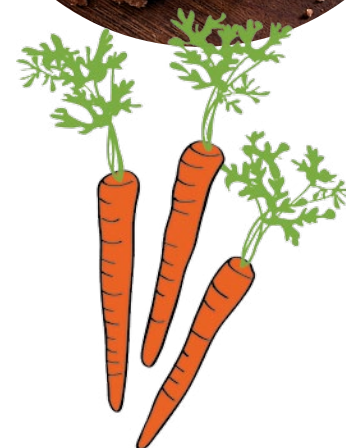
2 8oz packages softened cream cheese
¼ cup unsalted butter
2 ½ tsp vanilla
1 ½ cup confectioner's sugar

Directions

Preheat oven to 350°. Drain the pineapple and save 2 T liquid for the batter. In a medium bowl, combine dry ingredients. Add in the eggs, pineapple, oil, and the reserved 2 T juice. Combine well. Add in the carrots and walnuts. Bake 30–40 minutes in a 9x13 greased baking dish or 20–30 minutes in two round cake pans.

To make icing, beat the butter and cream cheese until smooth, then add vanilla and beat in sugar until light and fluffy.

When the cakes are cool, cover with the icing. If desired, chop walnuts and place them atop the icing, or decorate the cake with [marzipan](#) carrots. Enjoy!



School of the Spirit® classes in the convenience of your own home

This Class Changed My Life



I was seeking the Lord for His will in my life, and He led me to the *Richard Roberts School of the Spirit*®. I enrolled in the online classes right away. God has done miracle after miracle in my life since then. In one session, Richard gave a word of knowledge about someone being healed of hip pain. I had been having severe pain in my left hip for over a year. I said, "That's my healing," and was instantly healed! My mother and I received by faith a word of knowledge about knees being healed, and now her

knee pain is gone. And through a Bible study based on Richard's Holy Spirit class, which the Lord instructed me to have in my backyard, four of my family members gave their hearts to the Lord. I thank God for Richard's obedience in founding the School of the Spirit, and I'm so grateful to be able to attend!

—Sonja from Virginia

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RICHARD
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my miracle story...

Concussion Diagnosis Reversed

Last year I was playing with my dog and he snapped his head backward, hitting me very hard in the nose and forehead. I went to an urgent care



clinic and was diagnosed with a concussion. For the next few weeks I suffered with dizziness, nausea, and migraine headaches. I finally called the Abundant Life Prayer Group late one night. I was so thrilled because I got right through to a prayer partner. As I was talking to this young man, I felt such an incredible closeness to Jesus—it was wonderful. I went to sleep that night and slept like an angel. I have not had any symptoms of any kind since that night! I praise God and I thank you, Richard and Lindsay, for your ministry!

—Diane from New Hampshire

Seed-Sowing Sold My House

The insurance and expenses on my home had gone up to the point that I really needed to sell it. I had a couple of buyers right away but the deals fell through. And then for months and months, no one even came to look



at the house. Then one night I was watching your TV program, *The Place for Miracles*™, and you were teaching on the power of planting a Deuteronomy 1:11 seed. So I planted a seed-faith gift and believed God for my house to sell! A few weeks later, my real estate agent called me and said, "We've got a buyer, but you've got to move fast. He wants to buy it right away." I was overjoyed! I came upon some complications during the closing, but God

worked everything out just perfectly. We closed the sale on the day the house would have gone into foreclosure. I am a living example of what God can do when you plant your seed and expect a miracle!

—Dorsha from Ohio

For prayer anytime
day or night, call
the Abundant Life®
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It has been a privilege to follow the example of Oral and Evelyn Roberts' marriage. In this article, Evelyn addresses the unique challenges of merging ministry and family life. I believe you will enjoy this special glimpse into one of the sweetest unions I've ever seen! —Lindsay



Life Lessons from our marriage

by Evelyn Roberts

Oral Roberts has been introducing me as his “darling wife, Evelyn” for over sixty years. That’s all I’ve ever wanted to be—his inspiration, his helpmate, his comfort, his wife, and the mother of his children.

Together, we’ve learned a great deal about living by faith—not just from God and His Word, but from each other too.

Oral says he has learned some secrets from me that have helped him as a man, a husband and father, and in his calling from God. I share

four of them here because I believe they may be helpful to someone in your life as well.

1. Put Your Family First

When our healing ministry began in 1947, Oral was so busy that he didn’t have much time to spend with our children. He was gone on crusades for three weeks out of every month and, of course, he was exhausted by the time he came home. He would love on the children for a while, but then he would let them go about their own business. And I

could see the effect it was having on them.

Finally, for both Oral’s and the children’s sakes, I sat down with him and said, “Honey, you’re not spending enough time with the children. When they are grown, they’re not even going to know you. You’ve just got to spend time with them when you’re home.”

“You’re right,” he said. From then on, Oral tried to spend more time with each of the children—riding horses, fishing, playing golf, whatever they enjoyed. He learned that ministry and work do not come before your family. Your family comes first.

2. Control Your Reactions

I think that if Oral hadn’t had a quick reaction, he wouldn’t have been able to accomplish all the things that he has done. But at the same time, Oral used to fly off the handle and sometimes say the wrong thing before thinking.

I would tell him, in a loving way and at the right time, “When you have to tell people they’re doing something wrong, do it in a calm way. First tell them all the good things they’ve done, and then say, ‘Now here’s where you’re falling short.’ Don’t let your reactions take over.”

3. Use Good Grammar

I think it’s important for anyone who communicates with the public

to know how to use the English language properly. When I married Oral, his grammar was not as good as I thought it needed to be. So I said, “Oral, you’re going to be talking to millions of people, and you need to use good grammar.”

Together, Oral and I took a correspondence refresher course in grammar right after we married, and I think he speaks almost perfect English now.

4. Learn to Receive After Planting Seeds

When Oral and I were growing up, we were taught that when you do something for God, you’re not to expect anything back from Him. We thought that would be sacrilegious and against the Bible. But in those days we didn’t know Scripture like we do now—verses such as Luke 6:38, in which Jesus says that when you give, God will bless you.

We were planting our seeds of faith, but when God started giving to us, Oral wouldn’t accept it. So after a while I told him, “You’re teaching people to give and telling them the Lord will give back. If we don’t receive what God gives back to us, then we can’t teach the people how to receive what God wants to give back to them.”

Ever since that time, the Lord has given us outstanding harvests because of the seeds of faith we’ve planted. It’s part of the Bible. And it works! 🌻

One of the most remarkable stories in the Bible is about the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:29–37). I believe if there was ever a message designed for you and me today, this is THE message.



LIFTING PEOPLE UP

by Richard Roberts

The Bible tells us that a man was traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho when he was attacked by a band of thieves. They robbed him, stripped him of his clothing, beat him, and left him half dead on the side of the road. Later, several people passed by the man, and I believe their reactions reveal three different philosophies of life.

1. The Philosophy of the Thieves

The first philosophy belongs to the thieves. They said, “Let’s beat the man up!” Now, this is a picture of the devil’s crowd. John 10:10 makes it clear that

the thief—the devil—comes to steal, to kill, and to destroy.

Perhaps you haven’t been beaten up physically, but you’ve taken a mental beating or a spiritual beating or a verbal beating. Or maybe someone has assaulted your integrity.

The apostle Paul was also beaten up. He was ridiculed. He was chased out of town. He was shipwrecked, stoned, and left for dead on the side of the road. But that didn’t stop him from doing what God called him to do.

If anyone had a right to gripe about his circumstances, it was the

apostle Paul. But Paul was God’s “can do” man. He said, *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me* (Phillippians 4:13). And no matter what he faced, Paul had made up his mind to serve God.

2. The Philosophy of the Priest and the Levite

The priest and the Levite saw the man who had been brutally beaten and left for dead, but they passed by him. They crossed over to the other side of the road. The philosophy of this particular priest and Levite was, “Let’s pass him up.” They didn’t want to get their hands dirty. They were not moved with the compassion of Jesus.

Let me tell you, the philosophy of the priest and Levite will not get the job done in the world today. Our job is to pray for the hurting people and believe God for their salvation.

3. The Philosophy of the Good Samaritan

After the priest and the Levite had crossed over to the other side of the road, a Samaritan came by and saw the man who had been beaten up and left for dead. Immediately he knelt down beside the wounded man and began to treat his wounds. The philosophy of the Good Samaritan was, “I’ll lift him up.”

It’s amazing to me that Jesus used someone in this story whom most people of His day disliked. The Samaritans were half Gentile and half Jewish, so both the Jews and the Gentiles disliked them. That means the one who was the least likely to minister to the wounded man was the one who lifted him up!

**Spiritually
speaking, I believe,
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THEM UP.****

The Good Samaritan put the wounded man on his horse, took him to the local inn, got a room for him, and told the innkeeper, “Whatever the bill is, I’ll pay it.”

I believe God is asking us today, Are we going to refuse to lift up others spiritually because we think it’s too hard or too inconvenient? Or are we willing to lift others up, in the Name of the Lord?

Jesus said, “If I am lifted up, I’ll draw all people to Me” (John 12:32). Spiritually speaking, I believe when we see someone beaten up and passed up on the roadside of life, we’ve got to step in and lift them up to Jesus. We’re not here on this earth to put people down, but to lift them up, moved by the power and compassion of the Lord Jesus Christ. ☀



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The
**PLACE for
MIRACLES**

funny  **bone**

Wedding Circus

A little boy was in a relative's wedding. As he came down the aisle, he would take two steps, stop, turn to the crowd, put his hands up like claws and roar.

So it went—step, step, ROAR, step, step, ROAR—all the way down the aisle. As you can imagine, the crowd was near tears from laughing so hard by the time he reached the pulpit.

Later, when asked what he was doing, the child sniffed and said, "I was being the Ring Bear."

(Contributed)



What Am I?

Ms. Jones had given her second grade students a science lesson on magnets. She explained and showed how magnets can pick up nails and other bits of iron. Later, during a question time she asked, "My name begins with the letter 'M' and I pick up things. What am I?"

A little boy in the front row answered, "You're a mother."

