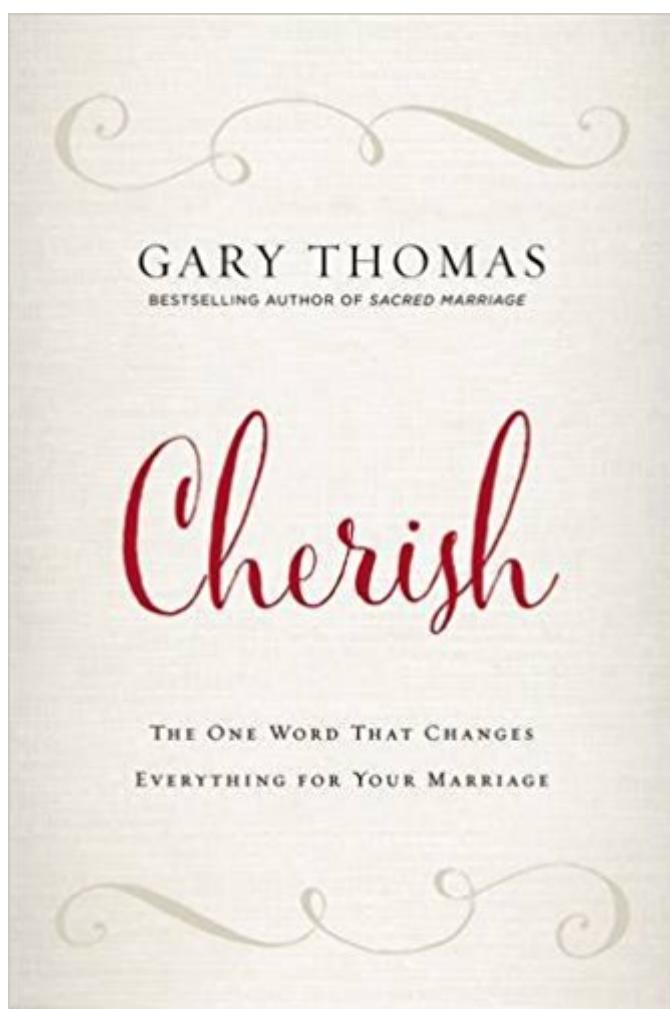


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# Cherish: The One Word That Changes Everything For Your Marriage



## Synopsis

“Most marriages survive by gritting teeth and holding on. But marriages can and will not only survive but thrive when husbands and wives learn to cherish one another.” Those are the powerful words of bestselling author Gary Thomas in his newest book, *Cherish*. And in a world desperate for marriage redemption, it is needed now more than ever. Thomas shows that although there are a countless number of marriages consisting of two people just going through the motions, there are real ways this pattern can be reversed: when husbands and wives learn to cherish one another in proven, loving, and everyday actions and words. Through personal stories and real world examples, Thomas proves what husbands and wives can begin doing today to turn their marriage around—even a marriage marred by neglect and disrespect. So how do you cherish your spouse? Thomas will show you how going out of your way to notice them, appreciate them, honor them, encourage them, and hold them close to your heart will bring hope, light, and life into your marriage.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Cherish is full of wisdom, practical advice, and candor on a subject so personal and sacred---how to live the marriage you want every day. Gary Thomas brings truth and reminds us of Jesus in the midst of our earthly relationships. (Jennie Allen, author of *Nothing to Prove* and founder of IF:GATHERING) Many of us vowed “to love and to cherish” when we married. We hear a lot of good advice about loving our spouses, and that’s certainly important---but there’s more. Gary Thomas shows us how to put love into action through cherishing the

one we love. (Jim Daly, president of Focus on the Family)Gary Thomas has given a deep understanding and application of a key biblical concept that is sure to take any married couple who applies it to the next level. A must-read for every couple who wishes to grow their relationship. (Dr. Tony Evans, president of The Urban Alternative)Sacred Marriage has become a classic, must-read book. Now Gary Thomas has written another wonderful book, Cherish, that focuses not just on loving your spouse, but on cherishing---treasuring, honoring, holding dear with tenderness, protecting, nurturing, and wanting to showcase---your spouse. This must-read book will be a tremendous help and blessing to couples and their marriages. (Siang-Yang Tan, PhD, professor of psychology at Fuller Theological Seminary, and author of Counseling and Psychotherapy: A Christian Perspective)Two words come to mind every time I pick up a book by Gary Thomas: profound and practical. I often cover relationships on my radio show, and nobody articulates God's deepest desire for our relationships quite like Gary Thomas does. He's both convicting and encouraging, challenging and empowering. If your marriage feels dull and lackluster, read thoughtfully and prayerfully through Gary's new book, Cherish. You're only pages away from a new day and a new way of relating to your spouse. (Susie Larson, talk radio host, national speaker, and author of Your Powerful Prayers)Every married person desires to love and cherish their spouse. Most of us have a sense of what it means to love well. Few of us have a vision of what it means to cherish our spouse. Gary Thomas paints a vivid picture of what it means to truly cherish another human being. This book reveals new pathways to grow a healthy, dynamic, and life-giving marriage. (Dr. Kevin G. Harney, pastor, author, and founder of Organic Outreach International.)There is nothing more beautiful than to be in a relationship with someone who is supposed to love you . . . and they actually love you. Cherish helps bring home that sweet, happy spot in marriage. (Dr. Tim Clinton, president of American Association of Christian Counselors)Get ready to be inspired! This book is sure to lift your marriage to a higher level---that's what it did for us. But Gary does more than inspire. He equips. He shows us how to lovingly care for and treasure our spouse like never before. Don't miss out on this incredibly practical message. Your marriage will never be the same. (Drs. Les & Leslie Parrott, #1 New York Times bestselling authors of Saving Your Marriage Before It Starts)Gary Thomas has done it again! He has a way of shifting my marriage paradigm to shed brilliant light on what it means practically to honor God in my marriage. By bringing to life one little word, Cherish will do the same for you. (Dr. Juli Slattery, president of Authentic Intimacy)Every couple gets married with great intentions for their marriage. Their marriage is going to be different; it's going to be special. But many couples lose their purpose, and life gets busy, hardships come, and the marriage they

have isn't the marriage they wanted. Every couple wants to improve their marriage, but many don't know where to start. That's what I love about Cherish. Gary Thomas gets to the heart of marriage. Soak in his wisdom, apply these principles, and watch God transform your marriage relationship into something you cherish. (Justin Davis, pastor of Hope City Church, founder of RefineUs Ministries, and author of Beyond Ordinary: When a Good Marriage Just Isn't Good Enough)I've always been a huge fan of Gary Thomas's books, but Cherish is special. It shows couples how to turn disappointing marriages into delightful ones. I especially appreciated the chapter on honoring each other. As I work with couples in not just disappointing marriages but destructive ones, dishonoring is a significant issue. I'm grateful for Gary's validation of the fact that regularly withholding cherish in one's marriage can rise to the level of emotional abuse. (Leslie Vernick, licensed counselor, relationship coach, and author of the bestselling The Emotionally Destructive Relationship)

Gary L. Thomas is Writer in Residence and serves on the teaching team at Second Baptist Church, Houston, Texas and the author of 18 books that have sold more than a million copies worldwide and have been translated into a dozen languages. He and his wife, Lisa, have been married for 30 years. Â

Let me first say that I believe God is using Gary Thomas to greatly impact many people who are struggling in their relationship with God and coincidentally with their spouse. I have read many of Gary's books and find his writing style very easy to read with a healthy dose of scriptural references. He uses anecdotal stories that are concise and to the point such that the brief interludes are very effective at conveying his message. In particular, I find it very impactful when he uses experiences from his own marriage with Lisa to convey a thought. Being very self-centered myself, it's very helpful to hear Gary express empathy for his wife's viewpoints on the various matters. My first exposure to Gary's writing was a result of some very difficult times. After 33 years in a marriage that had grown very cold and generally lifeless, I decided to file for a divorce thinking that I could find joy from a "better" partner. My daughter responded by giving me a copy of Gary's book "Sacred Marriage" which I quickly stowed away for another day. I decided to postpone the divorce, but my heart was certainly not in the right place. Several months later I did read "Sacred Marriage" and for the first time I began to understand what God was trying to accomplish in me through my marriage. I subsequently read the book a second time and also read his follow up book "Lifelong Love." Both of those books (and associated seminars) were extremely instrumental in renewing my marriage

relationship beyond my imagination and in leading me to my subsequent Baptism. Of course, none of my growth would have been possible without the inner workings of the Holy Spirit. One thing I have come to realize is that I had allowed myself to develop "worldly" views of marriage and of women in general. And in dealing with my addictive habits, I learned the meaning of Romans 12:2 and its critical importance in winning the spiritual battles. And the best means to "renew my mind" is to read books that apply biblical principles to create a Godly vision of marriage and the opposite sex. I have found that all of Gary's books provide that Godly vision so that I now have a better understanding what to seek. So if you are a Christian, I believe it is critical to be reading Gary's or similar books to replace the worldly views with a clear understanding of God's intended design. I view "Sacred Marriage" as the baseline book for understanding God's intent for marriage and "Lifelong Love" as a very powerful building block on the message of sacrificial love. After reading "Cherish," I now have a much better understanding of the "active" part of a loving relationship. Many of us promised to "love and cherish" our spouses, but I frankly had no clue what was truly involved in cherishing someone to this degree. Regarding the layout of the book, I very much like how Gary summarizes the key points at the end of each chapter. This helps to ensure that I captured the critical messages that Gary was trying to convey. Each chapter also ends with pertinent "Questions for discussion and reflection" that we will use as "devotionals" on our date night. If there is just one thing I could recommend to other married couples, it would be to use Gary's books as a means to initiate "Godly" discussions so that both spouses grow in their relationship with God and subsequently with each other. And I find "Cherish" to be a very powerful book to that end.

Wow! Gary Thomas has done it again. When I read "Sacred Marriage," I was overwhelmed with the insight into marriage that God gave Gary Thomas. That book reiterated my personal view on the subject. Now, Gary has written the follow-up book on a God-based marriage, "Cherish," and it is changing my relationship with my wife. I know Gary has written other books on marriage besides these two great works, but they complement each other. "Sacred Marriage" gives us the "why" of marriage, and now we have the "how" to make marriages go from "good to great" in "Cherish." The stories and the insights into the everyday life of couples make this book so easy from which to learn. Though I have been married for over 30 years, I have so much more to learn and this book has given me insights into how I need to grow in my marriage. Thank you, Gary, for the help you have given to people in their marriages.

I received a free digital copy as a part of the launch campaign, so I had a chance to really focus time

on this book, during my Christmas vacation. I enjoyed every page, from the first chapter where Gary talks about our choice to cherish our spouse and how that attitude will enrich and deepen our marriage relationship; to the last chapter where he reminds us of the Gospel Message of Salvation and how a loving God cherishes the imperfect us and can teach us to cherish our imperfect spouse. There was a soul searching chapter on how we can make ourselves "more easily cherished" by our spouse where Gary challenges us to look at areas we can improve. This exercise caused me to create an action plan on ways I can be a better husband, father, man, so my wife can cherish me even more. Buy this book and read it with your spouse to learn how that one word "Cherish" can transform your marriage and you can say, "I almost feel guilty that we have such a great relationship"!

I received a free digital copy of Cherish! Wow...Gary Thomas hit it out of the park with this one! I love the quote ÂfÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  Â“If you want to be cherished, practice humility and admit there are some really irritating parts of you that need to be transformedÃfÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  â•and welcome the transformation.ÃfÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  Â•ÃfÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  âœ Gary Thomas, CHERISH: The One Word That Changes Everything for Your Marriage.Coming out of a hard time in my marriage this is so true...read this book! Cherishing your spouse changes your marriage!

What an excellent book! Any marriage would benefit from reading and applying the information presented here. Gary Thomas is a very gifted writer who explains ideas in ways that make it easy to apply to your life. I had tears in my eyes often as I read this book. I did have moments of wanting to wallow in self-pity as Gary said that no spouse should feel invisible in a marriage. But, he does such a good job of giving examples from so many situations and viewpoints that I was quickly reminded (in case I didn't quickly remind myself) of areas or times when I have a lot of room for improvement. I have read A LOT of marriage books, but this one would rank up there with one of the best and most helpful (along with Gary's book Sacred Marriage). Now- if I could only get my husband to read it too :). I can't recommend this book highly enough.

I was provided an advance copy of this book in exchanged for an unbiased review. However, in all honesty I was going to order it anyway. Mr. Thomas' books have been good sources of thought and inspiration in particularly rough portions of my life. This book is no exception. Mr. Thomas uses a scriptural basis for his writing, but also employs humor and anecdotes to illustrate his points. This book, if you haven't deduced from the title, is about cherishing your spouse. About those things to

make them feel appreciated and loved rooted in the Bible and its teachings. The book is a very easy read and should appeal to a wide audience of people looking to get more from their marriages. If you have enjoyed his other books, this one will be no exception.

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