

Marriage for a Lifetime

By Jim Poppenhagen

Nearly fifty-five years have passed since Marge and I first tied the knot, and we are still working on it. As we began this journey together, the honeymoon was over all too soon and the reality of daily living struck home. We fell back down to Earth with the routines of business and work, yet how different our lives were from before! From then on, the two of us were united to be one, and whenever any major decision was to be made, it was decided only after discussing it together. All of our resolutions have been done this way over the years.

Our love for each other has been a dominant factor in our marriage. Yet the most outstanding factor in our marriage has been the love God has for us. His love never fails. Whenever difficult times come, and they do, He is always there to see us through. As Peter told us, *“Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you”* (1 Peter 5:6-7).

As we cast our cares on Him and wait on the Lord, He does see us through. *“But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint”* (Isaiah 40:31).

The Lord has seen our marriage through in so many wonderful ways. He gave us a precious family of four children, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren, so far. We are so thankful for each one of them and pray that they will live to please and serve the Lord. It's so good to know that the Lord will never leave us or forsake us and as we trust Him, He will usher us into glory at journey's end.