



GROWING YOUR MARRIAGE

THE MARRIAGE ALMANAC
MAY 2022



Uggh – what is going on? Just stop it! - By Toni Rose

These were my initial thoughts last week as I was trying to collect eggs. One of my favorite hens has now become my nemesis. Big Momma is “broody”. She’s determined to stake her ground. She won’t leave the nesting box. She’s aggressive. Her feathers are ruffled, and she squawks when I try to move her. She’s even pecked at me a time or two. Her broodiness is affecting the other hens, as well as egg production.



The word broody means moody; gloomy, worrying persistently, or in the case of a chicken - inclined to sit on eggs.

Like my fussy little hen, sometimes members of my own household (I'm not mentioning names) can become broody. I've learned what doesn't help with my hen, or my husband. Fussing, pushing, or telling a spouse how they should act and think, or how grateful they should be is a sure-fire recipe for failure. In fact, it is a natural, but self-sabotaging approach. Often that well-intended strategy accomplishes just the opposite of the objective.

I've now taken some time to "Google" what to do about a broody hen. There are suggestions like putting ice in the nesting box, offering a cold bath, or placing the hen in a separate cage for a period of time. These may be good suggestions for dealing with a broody hen but not a broody spouse. Fortunately, scripture offers good wisdom for that.

B - bear with him in love, seeking to understand the deeper issues (Ephesians 4:2)

R - respect him (1 Peter 2:17)

O - offer hospitality, kindness, gentleness (1 Peter 4:9)

O - obey God, do not sin in frustration (1 John 5:3)

D - do not be selfish, put his needs first (Philippians 2:3)

Y - YES, pray for your spouse continuously with hope and gratitude (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)



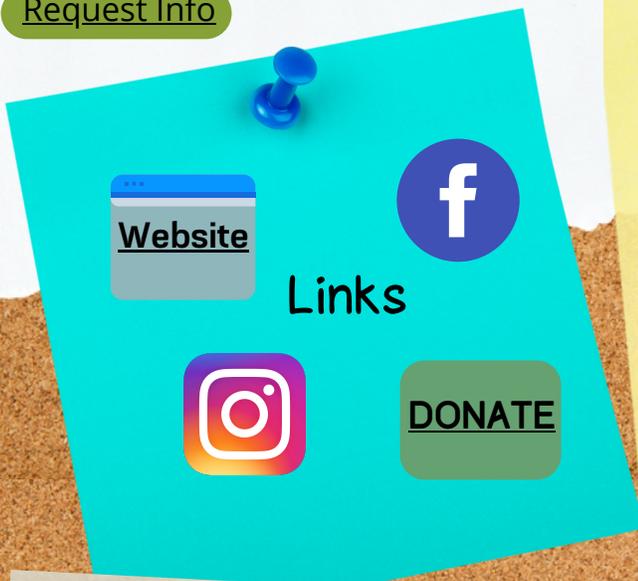
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