"It's better to fight for something than against something."
--Author unknown

Contemporary Comments

"Love Stories" | March 24, 2012 | Order Info


Their love story has drawn national attention. First, through a book published in 2000, and then through a box office hit that was released four days before Valentine’s Day 2012. "The Vow" is a story of faith, determination, and a belief that love really does conquer all.1

The year was 1993. Kim and Krickitt Carpenter had only been married ten weeks when they were involved in a nightmarish car accident. Kim told an NBC reporter, "I heard 'Watch out!' and the most blood-curdling scream. I heard Krickitt just gasp; I thought it was the last breath of air she could get." At the hospital, he was told that his new bride was beyond medical help, and she was given less than a one percent chance of survival.

But she did survive. Once coherent, she remembered her parent’s names, but when doctors asked about her husband, she replied, "I’m not married." Krickitt was suffering short-term amnesia.

Kim tried everything to jog her memory. "I wanted my wife back," he said. "I became obsessed with putting pictures of us...anywhere. She couldn't sit down in the bathroom without seeing a picture." In spite of his efforts, nothing worked. Then a therapist had an idea: he told Kim that he needed to get Krickitt to fall in love with him all over again. So he began asking her out on dates, and wooing her in the same ways he did the first time. Then he proposed, a second time. And she said yes. Two-and-a-half years after the accident, they had a re-dedication ceremony.

"I chose to love him, and obviously my love grew for him and he’s a wonderful husband," Krickitt said. "You have to stay committed, and you know, you have trials in your life and you have to keep persevering."

What the movie failed to show is that the Carpenters are devout Christians. They relied heavily on God during their ordeal, believing that God could heal and lead them through the tough times—and help them keep the vow. "You make a promise before God with your wedding vows," Krickitt said. "You have to take that seriously. The movie doesn’t talk about faith significantly. It would have been nice to see more of it. The first book we wrote was extremely embedded in our faith, but I think the movie does depict the inspiration of the battle to hang in there. I think the audience realizes we are a people of faith."2

The Carpenters know the type of love we studied in this week’s lesson. God created the first romantic relationship in Adam and Eve—taking a part of Adam to form Eve. God didn't create them to have a platonic relationship, but one that could feel and experience romantic love. God approves of romantic love. Just take a look at the Song of Solomon. True love is something to be treasured, something to be guarded, something to give and receive, and something that honors the One who created it.

~ nc

Additional resource: Kim and Krickitt Carpenter interview. MSNBC

1. MSNBC
2. Fox News

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