

Excerpt from *Clutch Your Pearls, Girl! –
Sister Wisdom to Protect Your Heart*
By Stephanie L. McKenny

Make Him Love You?

Many women have tried it, but I don't know how successful the outcome was. Some women will forsake their own life's ambitions to focus on getting a man to love them. Love is an innate desire we all possess. We may not want to admit it, but we all want to be loved. Nevertheless, I can't imagine wanting to be in a relationship where you're literally trying to make someone love you.

It is an emotional strain when you are trying to make someone love you. You will always be the one giving love and you will rarely receive it back. When a woman wants to make a man love her, she will give her all to capture the heart of a man when giving his heart to her is the furthest thought from his mind. Some women will compromise their virginity, their integrity, their money, forfeit their dreams, have sex with them, cook for them, some even use root (witchcraft) on them just to get a man in their arms to call their own. Being on the receiving end of love doesn't require a bribe. Love should flow freely from heart to heart without any manipulative or deceptive tactics to get it started. Love just happens. And if it's not just happening for you, maybe it was not meant to be—at least not with him.

A woman who longs for a man's love is not anything new. This kind of behavior has taken place back in the Bible days. This scenario is found in the biblical story of Jacob and Leah. Jacob loved Rachel who was Leah's sister. Even though Jacob had eyes for Rachel, Laban, Rachel's father tricked Jacob and gave him Leah to marry first. Throughout their marriage, Jacob openly longed for Rachel. Imagine being married knowing your husband is in love with someone else. Whew! That's a hard pill to swallow. Ironically, Jacob ended up marrying Rachel also, but inwardly Leah continued to long for Jacob's love. Leah continued with her wifely duties and birthed his children (Genesis 29:32-35). The names Leah gave her sons ironically give the impression that she longed for Jacob's love. At the birth of the first son she said, "Now my husband will

love me.” The second son she said, “Because the Lord knew I was hated.” The third son she said, “Now my husband will be joined to me.” Even after Leah gave Jacob sons; nothing changed. It was a fact: Jacob still loved Rachel the most. However, after that third son, something must have happened within Leah’s heart. She had another son and named him Judah. She said, “Now I shall praise the Lord.” And the Bible says she left from bearing. Leah must have realized the importance of putting God first instead of man. At that point in her life she redirected her thoughts and emotions to give God praise. She had to turn back to the relationship that mattered most. Even though many women try to get men to love them, there is a relationship that requires minimal effort on our part to receive love unconditionally. The wonderful thing about having a relationship with God is that you don’t have to make him love you; He already does.

Besides, if a man loves another woman, don’t play that foolish game of trying to take him away from her. You will look foolish in the end. Some women get a thrill out of trying to find out if they got what it takes to steal a man from another woman. This strange woman (as the Bible calls her) wants to see if she can bring this man to a piece of bread (Proverbs 6:26). She wants to see if she can have him eating out of her hand. She doesn’t care how you feel, or how much you’ve invested in the relationship; she just wants your man. I’ve got to ask this: Who in her right mind wants a stolen man? Somewhere down the line somebody will steal him from you. You reap what you sow; it’s a law that can not be broken. Stay out of other people’s relationships and wait for your own love experience. Besides, for all you know, he could be an undercover swine.

Oftentimes, when a woman is trying to make a man love her, the man will go along with the program only to get what he wants from her. A man knows when a woman is desperate for love. Somehow desperation oozes out of our pores and is detected by men who prey on desperate women. These kinds of men don’t feel anything for you. Their main purpose is to sap you dry. You’re giving it out and they’re taking it. As long as you got the ‘for sale’ sign up, men will buy. Don’t allow yourself to resort to desperate measures so you can rest in the arms of a man. Girl, grab you a teddy bear (that’s right, I said it) and hold it real tight. Don’t worry—it’s only temporary because, in due season, a good man will come into your life to love you the way Christ loved the church. And the saved women waiting-on-a-husband said, “Amen!”

If you get involved with someone and recognize he's not really into you, don't waste your time. Throughout the relationship you will continually experience feelings of rejection because his heart is not ready to commit. You're hoping to walk down the aisle someday, but he is wondering how long he can play this game with you before you start pressuring him to really commit. If you have to convince, force, persuade or be deceitful to get someone to love you, it will never work. You will live a continual cycle of frustration trying to make that person love you.

Staying in a relationship for long periods of time hoping he'll finally pop the question can be frustrating. He says he loves you and you know you love him, but he's not willing to make that ultimate commitment after five years of dating. Obviously he's not that into you. Or either he has no intentions of walking down the aisle with you. You may need to move on. It's probably better that you find out now than much later in the relationship. Some women can't wait for a man to pop the question so they belittle themselves and ask him first. Not! This is a wrong move. Now for the remaining years the two of you are together, you will always be concerned as to whether he really loves you or whether he will remain in the relationship. At some point and time, he will feel coerced and you would've blocked the flow of his pursuit for you. A man likes to pursue a woman. Aggression is good, but a woman must keep it in perspective when involved in a relationship. No one wants to feel trapped or smothered in a relationship. It doesn't give the other person an opportunity to grow, and they won't love you properly. They will always feel pressured to please you.

Some women are convinced they are not only going to make someone love them, but they are also going to get married. Some women will settle for men who have no job, no money, no car, no goals, living with his momma (or living with you occasionally), not saved (no religious beliefs) and he shows signs of swine characteristics. And you want to make him love you? Hurry up and call 9-1-1 immediately because you must have bumped your head. You've got to be unconscious, or you're suffering from memory loss. Don't even waste your time or your emotions on a man like that. He shouldn't even be allowed to entertain your company. Obviously, he hasn't reached the proper level of maturity as a man. So how in the world do you think he's going to take care of you; much less love you?

Next thing you'll know he'll start hitting you a few times here and there. Because he's frustrated with his own life, he'll take it out on you. Before you know it, you begin to question yourself as to why he can't seem to love you. It's probably because he doesn't love himself and his life is not in tact. You'll run around like a chicken with her head cut off trying your best to do everything right to keep him happy. In case you didn't know, you're a pearl. You are precious in the eyesight of God. By no means were you ever supposed to be mistreated. Don't sell yourself short by allowing a man with such low standards to have your heart. Don't pursue after him either. Clutch your pearls, girl and keep moving. There is someone better for you.

I received another revelation while reading through Matthew 13:45-46. This merchant man was on a search for goodly pearls and when he found one, it was considered a great price. It was so valuable in his eyes that he sold everything he had to buy it. I said, "Wow! That is serious." The revelation I received was this: there is someone who is looking just for you, and, when he finds you and it is God's will, he will love you so much (the way Christ loved the Church) and forsake all (father and mother) to cleave to you (marry you). In other words, in his eyes you will be all that and a bag of chips with dip! Wait patiently for that kind of relationship and I guarantee there will be no regrets. You won't have to make him do anything; he'll want to do it on his own. That's the kind of love every woman wants to experience. Loving and being loved.

Pearls of Wisdom

- Love is not forced. Love just happens.
- If you made him love you, you will have to continue 'making' him throughout the relationship. This is not sincere and it's not from the heart.