

Endorsements

This is an excellent and useful book. It has caused me to forget that you have appointed me ‘editor.’ Chewing on my red pen, I have been immersed for many hours as a reader and a student. May I tell you something? Writing is a talent that God has blessed and given you. It is your free choice whether you dig a hole and carefully bury it to prevent a thief from getting at it or sell it for profit.

You have placed before us truth that is thought about but not spoken; that which is spoken about but not written in our culture. It is a great honor for me to have seen this work prior to publication. It will dry up tears and release many from the things that bind them. I advise people that happen to come across this book to read it. For myself, I have learned how to be a better husband to my wife.

God bless you!

Author Solomon Guteta Eteffa, New York

Marriage is a precious jewel given to man from the hand of God. It requires understanding, insight, and patient care for it to become all that it is supposed to be. To assist in this effort, Pastor Kokeb Gedamu has written a very useful book for married couples entitled *After the Honeymoon*.

This book is timely in its presentation and message. Based on the Word of God, it presents lasting and realistic solutions to problems that can easily occur in married life as two people try to relate to and bear with one another. It is a key book that should be found in every home.

I therefore give my heartfelt advice to every believer that is

married or is thinking of getting married to read *After the Honeymoon*. It will enrich your life and marriage.

Priest Dr. Tolossa Gudina
Pastor to the Ethiopian Evangelical Church in Atlanta
America

After the Honeymoon is a book that encompasses and touches on issues surrounding the family. It describes ways that a marriage can be strengthened so that it endures. By exposing the things that cause a marriage to break up, it gives useful advice to those that are single and shows those that are already married ways for improving it. Based on the Word of God, the book also gives useful advice on how to raise children so that they become useful members of society. This is a very good book. I advise and challenge everyone to read it.

Pastor Hanfere Aligaz
Ethiopian Evangelical Church
Washington D.C. – America

Our dear people,
Here is a book that gives intense spiritual advice to help keep marriages healthy and assist people in living on the earth fulfilled in their marriages.

It describes how a successful marriage is supposed to be by explaining the great blessing and mystery that God has given man in marriage. It especially reveals how believers give honor to Christ in their lives through the example of their marriages. I therefore urge you to bring prosperity to your marriage by getting this book into your hands.

Pastor Mulugetta Abate
Immanuel Worship Center, New York – America

I am very impressed by the book, *After the Honeymoon* presented by Pastor Kokeb Gedamu. It is a great book that advises how a family that glorifies God is established and raised up without forgetting or forsaking her first love and purpose (Revelations 2:4).

After the Honeymoon provides assistance in improving and advancing the marriage relationship by using the Word of God in breaking the yoke that especially exists in our culture and habits between a man and a woman.

Do not remove this book from your home because others can make use of it after you are done with it. In this way, you can make a contribution to the creation of healthy communities on this earth.

Dr. Wolde, Zemedkun/Professor
Norfolk State University
Norfolk, Virginia – America

After The Honeymoon

**THE KEYS TO A
SUCCESSFUL MARRIAGE**

**BY
KOKEB GEDAMU**

AFTER THE HONEYMOON: THE KEYS TO A SUCCESSFUL MARRIAGE

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Notice

□ I have written the meanings of some words that I have used directly from the Hebrew Language below so that they are clear to you as you read this book.

I have used the Words...

- Yahweh, Elohim, and Adonai instead of ‘God’ since these denote the Eternal, Heavenly and Powerful God.
- Yeshua – refers to Jesus the Savior
- *Ruach HaKodesh* – is the name of the Holy Spirit
- *Brit Milah* means an unchanging, eternal covenant
- *Hayyim* denotes a life that cannot be destroyed
- *Kehilla* – a gathering of people; represents a people or congregation
- *Yelladim* – means children

You can easily understand other Hebrew words that I have used since their meanings are written in parentheses. I have wanted to include Hebrew words once in a while because...

- There is similarity between my Ethiopian culture and that of the Israelis’
- I want to encourage those in the House of Israel to make use of the book
- I myself am Israeli

Dedication

This book is dedicated to Dr. Robert Winer.
It has been over seven years since I met you
I never expected God to give me a person like you.
You have helped me and my family in so many ways
with your love, material help, prayers, and counsel.
Most importantly, you have graced me
with true and lasting friendship.

You have impacted my life in so many ways and
God has used you to help me get to where I am today.
I love and appreciate you and your family.

“There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”
(Proverbs 18:24b)

Acknowledgements

I would first of all like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Elohim, who has received me as his son through the Lord Jesus (Yeshua), His Son; to My Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who has saved me and helped me wherever I have gone; and also to the Holy Spirit who has inspired and encouraged me to write this book. I thank you with my whole heart.

□ My heartfelt appreciation then goes to my beloved wife Menalu Melesse (Hiwot), who has stood faithfully by my side for over twenty years. I can never have enough of your love, advice, support, and encouragement. May God richly bless you for all that you do for me. I love you!

□ I give thanks to my beloved and dear children Ruhama (Meheret), Ebenezer, and Tsiona who greet me with smiles and hugs every time I return home from ministry.

□ From the bottom of my heart I want to say thank you to my spiritual father and mother Pastor Seifu Kebede and Evangelist Tsige Wengel Tekleab. They have always been by my side in prayer and advice from the time I started writing this book. May God Bless you!

□ I also want to say thank you to Sister Altash Yerdaw, a resident of Winnipeg, Canada, who has helped me in typing up the original draft of the book.

□ My heartfelt appreciation goes to Priest Dr. Tolossa Gudina, Atlanta, GA; Pastor Hanfere Aligaz, Washington, DC; Pastor Mulugetta Abate, NY; Professor Zemedkun Wolde, Virginia Beach; Author Solomon Guteta Eteffa, NY—I thank them for sacrificing their valuable time in editing this book before it was published. This ensured that the book maintained its integrity.

I thank Pastor Mesfin Mamo from the bottom of my heart. He sacrificed his valuable time in helping me design the

cover of the book and in formatting the text.

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Many people have directly or indirectly participated in the work of this book. If I were able, I would be happy to mention all of them by name. I would like to express my deep appreciation by saying, “May the Lord Bless all of you”.

I am very appreciative to Selamawi Shawl who took an extensive time to translate my book *After the Honeymoon* from Amharic, the native language of Ethiopia, into English. I have no words to express my gratitude to Selamawi who is a wife, a professional, and a teacher. I highly recommend her to those who need translations to English or Amharic. You can contact her at samget@att.net.

I want to express my gratitude to Irene McFadden who took her time to edit my book. Without her joy for parsing, this book would not have reached your hands. May God richly bless her for her effort to bring my book into a reality. Irene, I know you’ve done this for the love of Our Messiah, Yeshua. Thank you and be blessed the rest of your life with your sweet husband and children.

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Introduction

□ More than ever before our world is speeding to reach its end through vast improvements and advances in technology. The fear of God is fading and getting away from the seed of Adam as knowledge increases in these last days. Moreover, it is considered modern and fashionable to go to Satan and Psychics instead of going to worship God or read the Bible. From youth to adults, it is justifiable to spin within the orbit of Satan.

□ Those in the Western World who consider themselves advanced are encouraging people that do not know left from right to get into witchcraft and sorcery. They do so day and night by using various means of disseminating their destructive information. What is amazing is that even those churches who say that they are born again recognize same sex marriages by saying, “It is ok if they love one another.” They allow men to marry men and women to marry women. Even though it is nothing new that the Word of God is used for marketing and profit, the fact that it is increasing daily is great indication that the world is coming to its end.

□ Fifty percent of divorces happen among believers. Twenty-five percent live together, each with his and her own individual plans, aspirations, and bank accounts. They pitch together to pay their living expenses but play hide and seek in their marriages. According to some surveys, these are people that call themselves Christians.

□ What is heartbreaking is that this epidemic has contaminated our people! I do not dare to fully condemn people that live in Ethiopia the same way as those that live abroad. I understand from what I hear once in a while, however, that the sickness of divorce and living together has started to spread in our country. In the last ten years, my Lord has opened up different doors for me to travel to Europe, the

Middle East, and North America where I have had the opportunity to see and study how our people live. I have seen and heard many sad stories as I served in some places where I have gone to give marriage seminars. On the other hand, I have also seen many families that have blessed and successful marriages.

God /Elohim/ has given different burdens and talents to each person. He did this so that the church/*Kehila* would become whole, knowing and understanding her savior and redeeming Messiah Yeshua. I give out what is within me not because I consider myself to be an expert in marriage, but because of the burden and yoke that the Lord Holy Spirit/Ruach HaKodesh has placed within me. I feel that this would be helpful to those who cannot make heads or tails of their marriage vows. Should there be any mistakes, I would like to give advance notice to the reader to make corrections as he/she reads.

I would, first of all, like to give heartfelt appreciation to the Lord for his help in writing this second book. I have come to understand from encouraging letters I have received that my earlier small book entitled *Married Life* has reached many people. For the most part, the letters say, “Take courage, keep going, we are praying for you.” These words have been a source of strength in writing my second book. Thanking the Lord very much for my people, I convey my blessings by saying “God Bless You” right from where I am to those who have encouraged me.

My first book was short and to the point in covering marriage. Single people and those who were preparing to get married were the main focus. Most of the topics covered were for beginners. However, the book also gives some solutions to those that are married and especially those who are having problems in sexual relations. The message I wanted to convey would be complete if this book is read along with *Married Life*. Read both if you can. From beginning to end, this second book focuses on the life of those that are already married. It covers

solutions to problems encountered by our people who live outside the country for various reasons. It also touches on issues surrounding raising children.

□ There are married couples who cannot openly express problems in their sexual relationship because of the influence of culture and principle. I believe that this book will provide a solution by offering some transparent ideas. My main goal is to encourage and make a way for our people to have better marriages, thereby establishing a healthy generation. I believe that this book will also become a source of strength and encouragement for spiritual leaders who have not been able to share their deep experiences due to culture.

I have attempted to read through some books that reflect marriages in the Western World, since they are extremely different from the Ethiopian culture and experience. However, I have not focused too much on them. To avoid confusion as you read, I would like to clarify beforehand that I have quoted some of the things that I believed would be useful.

□ In conclusion, I offer my heartfelt prayer that the Holy One of Israel enlightens the eyes of your heart and leads you to greater understanding. May your marriage be holy and blessed. May it bear fruit that will endure from one generation to the next to make you a blessing to our earth! Amen!!

Shalom
Kokeb Gedamu,
Pastor/Messianic Rabbi