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Harley's "His Needs, Her Needs: Building an Affair-Proof Marriage" (Book Review)

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The book does not take an overly scholarly approach, thereby not burdening the reader with footnotes and citations. There is a notes section that lists sources cited. It does, however, offer an excellent presentation of Acts 2 and the importance of remaining true to the teachings of the New Testament for the church of the twenty-first century. This book is recommended for personal study and as introductory matter for courses about Christian witnessing.

His Needs, Her Needs: Building an Affair-Proof Marriage,
 by Willard F. Harley, Jr. Grand Rapids, MI: Revell, 2011. 240 pp. \$19.99.
 ISBN 9780800719338

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No wonder this book has sold over two million copies in its twenty-five years in print. It is a practical, readable, well-documented study of building a successful marriage by instructing spouses to meet one another's felt needs. The ten most prominent needs of men and women are examined with questions for couples to consider together and separately at the end of each chapter. These include: affection, sexual fulfillment, intimate conversation, recreational companionship, honesty and openness, physical attractiveness, financial support, domestic support, financial support, family commitment, and admiration. Steps to take if one spouse has been involved in an affair are presented in a redemptive tone in another chapter. Inventories and questionnaires are included as an appendix.

The book is not particularly scholarly, but it is backed by the credentials and experience of a clinical psychologist and marriage counselor. It would be particularly helpful for those studying pastoral counseling or family ministry. It might also be used in premarital counseling sessions. *His Needs, Her Needs* should be considered a classic title in Christian marriage and family collections.

Should a library purchase this new edition if they have an older copy? The page count varies only by ten pages from the 2001 edition and all chapter headings remain the same, though the latest edition promises that it has been updated throughout.