

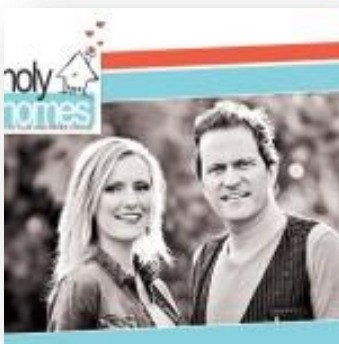


Clay Crosse grew up in Memphis, Tennessee. He became a Christian at the age of 13. He married his high school sweetheart, Renee. Initially, Clay worked as a courier for FedEx for six years. Clay released his first album, “My Place Is With You”, in 1994. “I Surrender All” was the most successful single from the album.

Clay became known for singles such as “I Surrender All” and “He Walked A Mile In My Shoes” and “Saving The World”. He won the Dove Award for “Best New Artist of the Year” at the 25th GMA Dove Awards in 1995. Clay’s music has a pop soulful style. Nine songs from his first four projects became No. 1 singles. During this period, his “He Walked A Mile” won the 1997 CCM Adult Contemporary Song of the Year. He also collaborated with Bob Carlisle and BeBe Winans on “I Will Follow Christ”, which won a Dove Award for “Inspirational Song of the Year”.

After the release of “Christmas with Clay Crosse”, Clay served as worship pastor for The Love of Christ (TLC) Community Church in Memphis under head pastor, the late Dana Key (of the Christian Rock group DeGarmo and Key). He now serves as Music Pastor at First Baptist Church, Bentonville, AR. Clay continues to sing and lead worship at events nationwide.

Clay and his wife Renee have been married since 1990 and have four children, two of which were adopted from China. Along with his singing appearances, Clay and Renee run their ministry, HolyHomes, leading marriage events nationwide as well as serving as spokespeople for Holt International Adoption.



Want To Go Out On A Date?

Want To Go Out On A Date? – Holy Homes

Seems like the longer we’ve been married, the more we appreciate actually going on dates. The more we date, we realize that we are still in love and genuinely enjoy doing things together. We know that’s not the case for some marriages, and this is quite puzzling. When we see marriages that have grown cold, we often wonder, “How exactly do two people fall out of love?” After all, there was certainly a time you dated and liked each other enough to marry, so what happened?

In many cases, people simply get busy. Life is fast and hectic with work demands, kid's schedules, bills, etc. It's easy to neglect spending time together. It's common to drift apart. It starts to feel natural to put our kids before our marriage. A healthy marriage takes work to maintain, but many times we can become so distracted by our schedules and busyness that we lose a vital connectedness to our spouse.

We've picked up several things from our new pastor and his wife. He's talked about taking his wife to a lovely spot off the walking trails to have morning coffee. She mentioned that they try to have breakfast together once a week. This man is a tremendously busy pastor of a large church, yet the example he is living is vitally important. He is never too busy to spend time with his wife.

This skill may not come naturally to a lot of people, so, it's important to schedule dates with your spouse. And don't feel tied to the old model that date night must be on the weekend, or even at night for that matter. With kids, that might not always work. What about a date for breakfast or lunch? What if it is on a Monday night instead of a weekend? We had a Monday night date recently and really enjoyed the change.

Please know how important this is. One day when your kids leave, it's going to be just the two of you again. Being alone as a couple in an empty nest has proven difficult for some marriages. Gear up for that day by spending time with your spouse today, just the two of you. Breakfast date, lunch date, dinner date, movie date...whatever it is, just make sure you are making a point to do it.

God put you together in this thing called marriage. Honor Him by spending time with the one He created for you. We're reminded of this important verse from Ecclesiastes:

Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up. Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone? And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NASB)