

February 2012 -

## Story of the Month



### **The Man Makes and the Woman Takes**

*(African American)*

When God made the first man and woman, they were of equal strength and they did the same things. Because of this equality, they were evenly matched and neither could get the better of the other. Dissatisfied, the man petitioned God for greater strength, so that he could rule over the woman; and it was granted. Announcing that he was the BOSS, the man thereupon demonstrated his new power by beating the woman every time she disobeyed him. Distressed and very angry, the woman petitioned God, but was refused more strength for herself. God explained that once He gave something He

could not take it back; and man would always be stronger than woman. Appealing to the Devil and acting on his advice, the woman then asked GOD for certain keys, which were granted her. According to the Devil, one was the key to the kitchen, another the key to the bedroom, and a third the key to the cradle. By using these keys wisely, the Devil said, the woman could overcome the man's greater strength. The man, upset at the woman's new power, offered to trade half of his strength for ownership of the keys; but the woman refused. Now men still boast of their strength, while women keep keys to control the men.