

Staying in Love 2.0 part 1 “Verbalize it!”

Is it possible for two people to stay happy together forever?

Table Talk: Briefly introduce yourself and share briefly the first time you experienced a crush?

It has never been easier to fall in love, but I would argue, and I bet you would agree, it has never been more difficult to stay in love, and yet, isn't that what we want?!

Why is it so hard?

1. The truth is, very few people have ever been around an emotional healthy, relationships, including marriages.

Do unto others as they deserve to be done unto!
Do unto others as they do unto you!

2. What we experience growing up.

You need to grow up in a home where you get in massive doses: respect, encouragement, comfort, security, support, acceptance, approval, appreciation, attention, and affection.

So, consequently, what happens for most of us is we come into adulthood looking for someone from whom we can get: respect, encouragement, comfort, security, support, acceptance, approval, appreciation, attention, and affection!

3. Society

The message you and I get every single day is: if you're not happy in your current relationship, it's because you're with the wrong person. You chose poorly. You need to re-choose. You need to start over, because you chose poorly. And if you'll just keep looking, you'll find that soul mate!

John 13:34-35

Jesus takes a word that we normally use as a noun and he makes it a verb. It's an imperative, a command.

Doing leads to feeling

The foundation for staying in love is to make love a verb!

Jesus says, "I want you to learn how to actively love one another." Love is something you do.

Ephesians 5:21. "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ."

Is it possible for two people to fall in love and stay in love forever? Absolutely. But it doesn't happen because you fell in love in a big, powerful way at the early part of the relationship. You stay in love by making love a verb, by loving one another, and taking your cue for loving one another from the One who loves you the most!

Love is a paradox; it often involves making a decision (verb). God's love is, of course, the template and the model for such human love. Yet, human love is the necessary "school" for any encounter with God's love. If you have never experienced human love, to the point of sacrifice, forgiveness, and generosity, it is very hard to access, imagine, and experience God's kind of love. Conversely, if you have never let God love you in the deep and subtle ways that God does, you will not know how to love another human in the deepest ways in which you are capable.

Table Talk: What might this look like in your relationships?

Memorize John 13:34-35

<https://5lovelanguages.com>