

Increase: A Strong Marriage

Jesse Berthold / February 4, 2024

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A STRONG MARRIAGE

The first thing that is necessary to have a strong marriage is to have a...

First: A Christ Centered Marriage

Matthew 7:24–27 (NLT)

²⁴ “Anyone who **listens to my teaching** and **follows it** is wise, like a person who builds a house on **solid rock**. ²⁵ Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, **it won’t collapse** because **it is built on bedrock**. ²⁶ But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn’t obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on **sand**. ²⁷ When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, **it will collapse with a mighty crash.**”

HOW DO YOU BUILD A CHRIST CENTERED MARRIAGE?:

1. Both husband and wife surrender their whole heart to Jesus!

Verse 24 = “Anyone who **listens to my teaching** and **follows it** is wise, like a person who builds a house on **solid rock**.

2. Pray together regularly

3. Worship Together

4. Serve Together

Psalm 125:1–2 (TPT) Those who trust in the Lord are as unshakeable, as unmovable as mighty Mount Zion! 2 Just as the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord's *wrap-around* presence surrounds his people, protecting them now and forever.

The second thing that is necessary to have a strong marriage is to...

Second: Know who the real enemy is!

Ephesians 6:10–12 (NLT) A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against **all strategies of the devil**. ¹² For we are not fighting against **flesh-and-blood enemies**, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

WHEN THE DEVIL TRIES TO MAKE YOUR SPOUSE YOUR ENEMY:

1. **Stand your ground**
2. **Refuse to engage**
3. **Hold your tongue**
4. **Fight from your knees**
5. **Fight for your marriage, not in your marriage**

The third thing that is necessary to have a strong marriage is to...

THIRD: Be willing to pay the price to cultivate!

HOW DO YOU CULTIVATE YOUR MARRIAGE?:

1. **Date Often**
2. **Dream Together**
3. **Determine to Succeed**

