

Sunday, February 18, 2024  
Keys to Success for a Godly Marriage

Today, in light of Valentines and our Greater Love Weekend, we're going to discuss some keys to success in a godly marriage from a biblical standpoint. The use of these keys can change the course of your marriage – placing it on a track to become more unified. Jesus said this about keys:

Matthew 16:18-19 (NIV)

Remember that marriage is a picture of Christ's relationship with His church. Jesus stated that His church will be established on the rock of revelation with the use of keys to the kingdom of God – binding and loosing. The church does not use the keys in an arbitrary way but according to what follows kingdom purpose. Same with your marriage.

**KEYS TO SUCCESS:**

**1. Personal Accountability**

The importance of this key cannot be overstated. The use of this key destroys selfish motives and actions in the marriage and establishes obedience and submission to God. Without it, there is little hope for the marriage.

**2. Corporate decision making.**

The church of Jesus Christ is called a body. The body has a head, feet, hands – you get it. If the head does not receive signals from the other parts of the body, disaster can occur. It is the same in a marriage. Two have become one. If the husband refuses to receive counsel or input from his wife – discounting her needs and willfully forgetting that she can also hear from God, then disaster can occur.

Matthew 27:19 (NKJV)

**3. Repentance/Forgiveness.**

When you are wrong, God expects you to repent. It is the evidence of a humble and righteous heart and the pathway to restoration of relationships. *Failure to repent reveals the presence of fear/pride.* When you have unforgiveness against someone, God expects you to forgive.

Unforgiveness locks out intimacy and locks in fear. *Failure to forgive reveals the presence of hypocrisy/judgment.*

Matthew 5:23-24 /// Mark 11:25 (NKJV)

#### 4. Communication

Some of us are not good communicators. We hide our feelings. We hide our perceptions. We hide our insecurities. Fear hinders communication. When communication is hindered, information is hidden. When information is hidden in a marriage, bad decision making is the result. When information is hidden in a marriage, intimacy has no chance to flourish. When information is hidden in a marriage, growth has no chance to take place. Communication can be nonexistent. It can be selfish. It can be lazy. Godly communication will put the needs of the marriage, your spouse, and yourself out there for examination – trusting the Lord to reveal healing, strategy, and love.

Ephesians 4:29-5:2 (NIV)

Today's Scriptures:

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- Matthew 27:19 (NKJV)
- Matthew 5:23-24
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