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Three Marriage Essentials

Ephesians 5:31 — "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

I. Put God First

Matthew 12:30 — And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.

II Corinthians 11:3 — But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.

Matthew 6:33 — But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Proverbs 3:5,6 — Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

II. Learn How To Resolve Conflict

Ephesians 4:26,27 — Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27 and give no opportunity to the devil.

The 5 Biggest Areas of Conflict

MONEY: Matthew 6:24 No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

SEX: I Corinthians 7:2,3 But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband. 3 The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. 4 For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. 5 Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

WORK: Colossians 3:23,24 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

CHILDREN: Psalm 127:3 Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward.

CHORES: Galatians 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

III. Love and Respect One Another

Ephesians 5:33 — However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

LOVE: I Corinthians 13:4-7 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. 7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

RESPECT: Romans 13:7 Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

Quotes:

Martin Luther -There is no more lovely, friendly or charming relationship, communion or company, than a good marriage.

Max Lucado - God created marriage. No government subcommittee envisioned it. No social organization developed it. Marriage was conceived and born in the mind of God.

Thomas Adams - As God by creation made two of one, so again by marriage He made one of two.

Zig Ziglar - Many marriages would be better if the husband and the wife clearly understood that they are on the same side.

John R. Rice - Sex appeal alone is the poorest basis in the world for a happy marriage.