

Keys to a Fulfilling Marriage

1. Always possess the benevolent, self-sacrificing attitude of Christ toward your spouse.

Eph 5:21 - 21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. NIV

- Deny yourself. Selfishness is the enemy of marriage.
- Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ
- Prefer one another above yourself

2. Concentrate on treasuring your spouse.

Eph 5:29 - 29 for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, NAS

- Thank God continually for your spouse
- Focus on their positive traits
- Ask God for a special devotion to your spouse

3. Serve one another in love.

Gal 5:13 - 13 You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. NIV

- Action - Do the work of service
- Sacrifice your own comfort and pleasure for your spouse's benefit

4. Voice your approval, acceptance, and praise of your spouse often.

Prov 31:28-29 - 28 Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: **29** "Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all." NIV

- Mean what you say or don't say it
- Be creative

5. Invest in your marriage

Rom 12:10 - 10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. NIV

- It is the most important relationship in your life
- Time is worth more than "things"

6. Learn to enjoy your spouse.

Prov 5:18-19 - 8 Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice in the wife of your youth.

19 As a loving hind and a graceful doe, Let her breasts satisfy you at all times; Be exhilarated always with her love. NAS

- Be grateful to God and Adore your spouse, he/she is a gift from Him
- Be enjoyable - (Is your love exhilarating?)

7. Allow Christ's love and grace to transform you.

1 Cor 13:4-8 - 4 Love is patient, love is kind, and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, **5** does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, **6** does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; **7** bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. **8** Love never fails; NAS

- Is this the kind of love that you have to your spouse?