



Secrets to a Successful Marriage

Principle number Seventeen

Sex

1 Corinthians 7:1-5 Now concerning the things of which you wrote to me; It is good for a man not to touch a woman. Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. Do not deprive one another except with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control

A good sex life is another secret to a successful marriage. Before I say anything else, let me say this, we are not to use these scriptures to condemn our spouse. We are not to use them to manipulate our spouse to fulfill our own desires. We are to always respect and honor our spouse, always being aware of their feelings. God placed in mankind the desire to reproduce. Within the boundaries of marriage sex is a very good thing.

Hebrews 13:4 Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

It is not dirty or wrong. It is God's gift to a marriage. 1 Corinthians 7:1-5 is saying to each spouse not to withhold sex from their spouse. The scriptures say your spouse has a right to your body. You have no right to withhold sex from your spouse. The only exception to this is when there is a mutual consent between the two of you for the purpose of seeking God. It goes on to say, after the agreed upon time is over, to come together again for a sexual relationship. If you withhold sex from your spouse, the devil will come to them tempting them to commit adultery. I realize that sex is an intimate time and many times you are not in the mood, so to speak, for a sexual relationship. Nevertheless, if you will render your body to your spouse, which is rightfully theirs, your marriage will stay healthier and you will shut the door to the devil. Again let me say, if you try to use this scripture to manipulate your spouse, you are wrong and you will hurt your marriage and drive your spouse farther away.

A man's sex drive may decrease as he gets older but it will certainly never die. However a woman's sex drive may decrease much more than a man's as she gets older. As you get older you may have to make time for a sex date. When you are young this is no problem but as you get older you will have to make the date. Make the date that works for both of you and make it on a regular basis. I know my sex date and I always look forward to it. This may not sound romantic but it is very necessary if you are going to have a successful sex life with your spouse as you get older. This is where your faith comes in. This is where preferring your spouse above yourself comes in. I certainly never pressure my wife to have sex with me however she understands my needs and is faithful to accommodate me. I appreciate her so much for her selfless act of love.

One of the great blessings of Abraham is God will renew your youth (Psalm 103). He renewed Abraham and Sarah's body to their youth to have a baby when he was 100 years old and Sarah was 90. Abraham was impotent at the time and God healed him. If you are experiencing this you can stand on this truth and God will also restore you.

A Time to Reflect

1. Is a healthy sex life important to you?
2. Do you pressure your spouse to have sex with you?
3. Are you sensitive to your spouse's sexual needs?
4. Do you have sex on a regular bases?
5. Do you have a sex date on a regular bases?