



Secrets to a Successful Marriage

Principle number Eighteen

Money is a servant, not a master

1 Timothy 6:10 For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil: for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Money is your master when you look to money to find your security, your comfort, your pleasure, your image, and your happiness. All money can do is make you a little more comfortable and buy you stuff. Stuff can never make you happy for long. Money is a cruel master. If you love money your marriage will not survive. All you will do is fight over the money. Jesus also promises you security, comfort, pleasure, image and happiness. If you will put Him first and seek first His kingdom He will give you all these things. You know money is your servant when you use it to be a blessing to others. When you have more joy from seeing your wife and kids happiness over your own money is not your master.

Arguments over money are probably one of the leading causes of divorce. The first thing to remember when it comes to money is you are no longer two but one flesh (*Matthew 19:5*). It is no longer my money, but it is now our money. Who is in charge of the money is not the issue, as long as; the two of you come to a mutual agreement. When making a decision about spending money, always have your spouse and family in mind. If you cannot afford something, do not buy it. Financial stress is very difficult. If you cannot control your spending, have the wisdom to let your spouse control the money. If money is tight sit down with your spouse and make a budget and stick with it. If you are in debt make a plan to get out of it. Never use money as a tool to dominate your spouse. Money is designed in God's kingdom to serve you. Use it to be a blessing to your spouse and family and others. Do not use it to fulfill the lusts of your flesh. The moment you begin to serve money, it becomes your God. Money is a cruel taskmaster, it is never satisfied. Your spouse and your family are far more important than money.

1 Peter 5:7 Casting all your care upon Him; for He cares for you.

Philippians 4:19 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Don't let financial stress destroy your marriage. If you or your spouse has gotten you into a financial crisis, forgive them and/or yourself. Cast the care of it on the Lord. He is faithful. He

will deliver you. It may take some time and you may go through some hard times, but God is faithful, he will never leave you or forsake you (*Hebrews 13:5*).

There are several spiritual principles governing your finances.

1. Pay your tithes
2. Believe God's promises of provision and prosperity in your heart and confess them with your mouth.
3. Never talk about lack or complain
4. Don't be lazy but always be diligent

We live in a culture where most people are lazy and selfish. All you have to do to shine bright at your job is simply do it. Follow these simple rules and you will stand out above the rest.

1. Always be earlier for work
2. Always stay a few minutes late
3. Do a little more than is expected of you.
4. Don't complain, be thankful, and be diligent

A Time to Reflect

1. Is money your master or your servant?
2. Is your happiness or your family's happiness more important to you?
3. Is money an issue with your spouse?
4. Are you willing to sit down and work out your financial issues?
5. Are you shining bright at your work?