



Secrets to a Successful Marriage

Principle number Twenty

Don't be lazy but be diligent

Proverbs 24:33-34 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest: So your poverty will come like a prowler, and your want like an armed man.

This principle is saying if you are lazy and not diligent to work, poverty will suddenly come to you. Laziness is a marriage killer. No one wants to be married to a lazy person. Being lazy is just being selfish. Do not let your body control you. You control your body and make it work hard for your spouse and family. Your body will do whatever you tell it to do. Never serve your body but make your body serve you. If you are lazy your thinking is wrong and is causing you problems. Don't let your thoughts make you lazy. Get up and do what needs to be done. Your body is your servant. It will do whatever you tell it to do. Take a little pride in your work, your home, your yard etc. It will make you feel better about yourself and your spouse will greatly appreciate it.

Proverbs 22:29 Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men. KJV

Be diligent in everything you do. Diligence is a key to success in every area of your life. If you will be diligent in your job, you will be promoted, maybe not by your employer, but by God. Don't be lazy but be a hard worker. Keep your house clean, your dishes washed, your clothes washed, your lawn kept up, and your trash taken out. Laziness causes low self-esteem. Diligence makes you feel good about yourself. Learn to work hard whether it is on your job or at home. Laziness causes marital problems. Diligence makes a marriage strong. It is very difficult being married to someone that is lazy. Remember marriage is a team. To be successful each spouse has to do their part.

Communication, sex, and money are foundational areas in your marriage. God has given instruction in each of these areas of life. Obey God's word.

Make the sacrifice to communicate.

Be determined that you are going to have a successful sex life with your spouse. Make it a priority. Change your schedule if you have to.

Your marriage is far more important than money. Set your heart not to serve it but make it serve you. Use money as a servant to bless others. When you use it to fulfill your own desires, many sorrows will follow. I'm not saying do not to buy things for yourself that you desire. I'm simply saying have your family in mind when you do.

These are three keys to a successful marriage, be determined you are going to learn these spiritual truths and you are going to apply them to your life. It takes time to learn and apply these truths. You and your spouse will fall short many times, so be patient with one another. When you fall short repent. God is faithful to forgive you (*1 John 1:9*). When your spouse falls short, forgive them, God is faithful to heal the hurts.

A Time to Reflect

1. What areas of your life are you lazy in?
2. What can you do to change from being lazy to being diligent?
3. What is your spouse's biggest complaint about you being lazy?
4. What is your attitude about your job?
5. How can you encourage your spouse to be all they can be?