



Secrets to a Successful Marriage

Principle number Twenty-one

Walk in integrity

Be honest, tell the truth, and keep your word. Trust is a foundational truth that a marriage is built on. If you cannot trust your spouse it's going to be very difficult for your marriage to survive. I know sometimes telling the truth will get you in trouble and it's just easier to lie. But what I have found is the truth will almost always come out and when it does your spouse is going to feel betrayed and lied to. It is not going to go well. You would be far better off just telling the truth and bearing the consequences that come from your spouse. They may be angry with you or disappointed but they will respect you for telling the truth. When you lie to your spouse it almost always comes out and it weakens the trust your spouse has for you. Always be honest and tell the truth. Of course there could be exceptions to this principle. For example, if the truth would put someone's life in danger. God loves the truth and He hates a lie. No one likes being lied to. Nothing good comes from lying. Always be honest and tell the truth to your spouse and your marriage will be far stronger for it. Always be honest and tell the truth in every area of your life and God will honor you and He will bless you. Always keep your word. Today it is very rare for someone to keep their word. If you tell your spouse or your children you are going to do something, do it! If you don't do it you are a liar in the mind of your child or spouse. You may have a good excuse and you may have intended on doing it but if you said you would do it and you didn't then you are a liar. If you tell someone you will do something and something comes up and you cannot keep your word at least have the integrity to call them and let them know. Never make a promise if you have no intention on keeping it. Your word is your bond. If your word is bad, then you are bad for you are only as good as your word. If you live an honest life and always tell the truth and keep your word God will bless you abundantly.

A Time to Reflect

1. Do you always tell the truth?
2. Will you make a decision to always tell the truth?
3. Have you told your spouse or children you would do something and did not do it?
4. Is keeping your word important to you?
5. What changes can you make to improve your integrity?