

Journey CHURCH

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Secrets to 45 Years and Counting

Songs of Songs 5:16, NKJV; Proverbs 5:18-19, NKJV

To have a Great Marriage you will have to know what real Biblical Love is.

- There is a difference between *love* and *lust*.
- (Genuine Love) Please see insert.
- Lust is using someone as an instrument for your own satisfaction.

Three types of Love; each have a different meaning.

- **Eros Love - a need love;** based upon physical attraction and fulfillment; marriages cannot be sustained by eros love alone. Proverbs 5:15-19, NKJV
- **Phileo Love - a friendship love;** sharing of time, activities, the home, hobbies, and other objects of common fellowship. Romans 12:9-13
- **Agape Love - a giving love;** one loves even when the other doesn't respond as expected; self-giving in meeting real needs of the other with the purpose of helping the person to become a better, more mature individual. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, NLT
 - **Agape Love + Phileo Love + Eros Love = Godly marriage that will last.**

Exceptional marriages take doing some exceptional things.

1. You can't have exceptional relationship apart from an exceptional relationship with God. Psalm 127:1, NKJ
 - Exceptional is doing life together with Jesus being the center of your relationship. Matthew 6:33, NKJV
 - Whatever you *prioritize* will have *progress*.
 - You have to have exceptional self-acceptance.
 - You have to know and believe 'Who you are in Christ.'
 - Get your acceptance, security, and significance from Christ or you will try to get it from others.
 - Fix your hopes and dreams on God and seek to please Him through your relationship.
 - You have to become exceptionally unselfish. 1 John 4:7-8, NKJV
 - Selfishness is at the heart of most problems between people.
 - Due to lack of self-awareness we often miss how selfish we really are. James 4:1-3, NLT2
 - Selfishness robs our joy with God and others.
 - The way to overcome selfishness is the love of Christ in you.

- Christ' love leads us to wanting the best for the other person.
- You have to be exceptionally forgiving. Romans 12:17-19, NKJV
 - Forgiveness is not weakness; it is a way to power.
- It takes exceptional financial principles.
 - It takes two totally committed to financial principles to have an exceptional marriage.
 - Don't spend more than you make.
 - Make a budget together.
 - Tithe 10%, save 10%, spend 80%.
 - Financial principles lead to financial freedom. Matthew 6:21, NKJV
- It takes exceptional moral freedom. 1 Corinthians 6:18, NKJV; Hebrews 13:4, NCV
 - Don't be flirting with the opposite sex.
- It takes exceptional purpose in life. Matthew 6:33-34, NKJV
 - Jesus is our only true source of meeting all our needs; everyone else is simply a conduit used by God.
- It takes exceptional harmony with authorities.
 - If you're not in harmony with your authorities, you will have problems being in harmony with the Ultimate Authority, Jesus Christ and His Word. Romans 13:1-5, NKJV; NIV
- It takes exceptional faithfulness. (Not giving up) Galatians 6:9-10, NKJV