

HOW TO HAVE A FAIL-PROOF MARRIAGE

Develop a realistic view of marriage...no marriage is without problems (1 Cor. 10:13).

Learn to see marriage problems as growth opportunities (James 1:2-5).

Develop a high commitment to the success of your marriage (Eccl. 9:10).

Give first consideration to the quality of your own input in marriage (Matt. 7:3-5).

Try to do all things on the basis of love (Rom. 13:8-10).

Become a great partner in your marriage through service, as Christ stressed and modeled (Matt. 20:25-28).

Accept your marriage partner as he/she is, even as you work together for improvement (Matt. 7:12).

Admit your own faults and be willing to change (Rom. 2:1-4).

Learn to accept constructive correction or criticism without being reactive or defensive (Gal. 6:1-4).

Reserve time for each other and by your deeds confirm each other (1 Cor. 13:4-7).

Develop mutual interests that draw you together (Amos 3:3).

Strive to fulfill each other's needs including the sexual ones (1 Cor. 7:3-5).

Don't let the sun go down on your wrath, be angry and do not sin! (Eph.4:26-7)

Forgive each other just as you want God to forgive you! (Matt. 6:14-15).

Work to develop good communication while accepting the Biblical teaching to be more ready to listen than to speak (James 1:19-20).

Do not avoid problems but deal with them as they occur...seek help if needed (Matt. 6:34, Phil. 3:13-14).

Read, study, seek help to grow as a person spiritually, intellectually, socially, and physically (Luke 2:52).

Make your life together one of worship and praise to God (Col. 3:17).

Let your spiritual life in the Church be your real home...let it be your spiritual service to God (Rom. 12:1-2).

Carl Mitchell