

Love. Sex. Marriage Part 3: Marriage

(Proverbs 29:18 KJV) "Where there is no vision, the people perish."

(Proverbs 29:18 MSG) "If people can't see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves; But when they attend to what he reveals, they are most blessed."

Your vision is your definition.

Promises are no substitute for preparation.

You can't promise your way past preparation.

Don't commit to a person yet, commit to a process.

(Proverbs 14:8 NIV) "The wisdom of the prudent is to give thought to their ways, but the folly of fools is deception."

(Proverbs 14:15 NIV) "The simple believe anything, but the prudent give thought to their steps."

Prudent people look at your past. Foolish people look at your promise.

UnMarried

1. Deal with your issues.

2. Break your bad habits

3. Don't dress like a commodity or put up with being treated like one.

4. Deal with lust.

5. Postpone the physical component of your relationship for as long as possible.

Married

1. Don't window shop.

(Matthew 6:22-23 NLT) "Your eye is a lamp that provides light for your body. When your eye is good, your whole body is filled with light. But when your eye is bad, your whole body is filled with darkness. And if the light you think you have is actually darkness, how deep that darkness is!"

Psychology Today - "The gaze triggers a primitive part of the human brain, calling forth one of two basic emotions—approach or retreat. You cannot ignore the eyes of another fixed on you; you must respond. You may smile and start conversation. You may look away and edge toward the door. But first you will probably tug at an earlobe, adjust your sweater, yawn, fidget with your eyeglasses, or perform some other meaningless movement—a "displacement gesture"—to alleviate anxiety while you make up your mind how to acknowledge this invitation, whether to flee the premises or stay and play the courting game."

2. Understand that adultery can happen to you.

3. Schedule Romance.

(1 Corinthians 7:3-5 NLT) "The husband should fulfill his wife's sexual needs, and the wife should fulfill her husband's needs. The wife gives authority over her body to her husband, and the husband gives authority over his body to his wife. Do not deprive each other of sexual relations, unless you both agree to refrain from sexual intimacy for a limited time so you can give yourselves more completely to prayer. Afterward, you should come together again so that Satan won't be able to tempt you because of your lack of self-control."

4. Teach your kids that a closed door means you knock.

5. Get good advice not sinful sympathizers.

6. Serve in church together.

7. Go to counseling.