

Tighten the Knot - Making Your Marriage Everything God Intended it to Be
General Session 3
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Proverbs 5:18-19/Hebrews 13:4/Ephesians 5:33/1 Peter 3:1-7

Introduction: If marriage is ordained of God and so blessed and so wonderful and so much a part of our society, then why is it that so many of them are not happy and not good and end in divorce? Why are there so many misunderstandings and potential problems?

Men and Women are different! That is the problem in a nutshell.

1. He is a man. She is a woman.
2. He prioritizes the sexual relationship. She prioritizes affection, communication, and understanding.
3. He thinks she should prioritize the sexual relationship. She thinks he should prioritize affection, communication, and understanding.
4. He banishes problems by not bringing them up. She forgets problems by talking about them.
5. He believes it is important not to talk. She believes it is very important to talk
6. He believes a solution makes everyone feel better. She feels better if he listens without giving a solution.
7. He thrives on appreciation (REVERENCE). She thrives on communication, affection and understanding (LOVE).

So how do you tighten the knot? How do you make your marriage everything God intended it to be? Here is the third key:

Key #3 Practice Romance

Song of Solomon

Ch 1 kissing, touching, smelling good, making love

Ch 2 Eating together, praising each other, embracing, loving, sleeping, stealing away for alone time and for evaluation time (little foxes)

Have a fun and flirty and “I can't live without you and I am here for you” relationship

1. **Date** each other
 - Love on each other
 - Lavish money on each other
 - Listen to each other
 - Linger awhile together
 - Touch and talk and take time together
 2. Make romance a **daily** matter, not just a “**bed**” matter
 - Hold hands
 - Kiss often (at least 15 seconds once every day)
 - Flirt shamelessly
 - Build each other continually
 - Do it with Words
 - Do it with Actions
 - Do it with Attitudes
- This is important for your kids to see!

3. Prioritize the **bed** in your marriage

Quote: “**Make love** once a day and twice on Sunday!

A. Human sexuality is **sacred, holy, and good**

Genesis 2:27-31

First command was to “make love”

Second command was to “eat”

Making love is more important than eating!

B. Beware of **erroneous** thinking

“the bed” is a necessary evil

“the bed” is all about him and you will have to tolerate that

“the bed” is so disgusting

C. **Meet** each others needs (I Corinthians 7:1-5)

He needs your **attention** and **desire** and **willingness**

He needs sex **often** (It is like eating and breathing)

He is ALWAYS thinking THAT

He is OFTEN thinking THAT

She needs your **gentleness**

She needs your **consideration**

She needs your **touch**

She needs your **self-discipline** and **self-control**

She needs your **time**

She is NOT always thinking THAT

D. Both of you should **enjoy** this part of your marriage.

Want him/Desire her (Remember Proverbs 5:18-19)

Enjoy this part of your marriage

Slow down and help her to enjoy it

Learn how to enjoy “the bed” together

E. Get help if you need it!

Conclusion: Rebuild when it is necessary to do so!

Start over.

Ask her out.

Flirt to get his attention.

Forgive wrongs.

Ask for **forgiveness**

Recognize **your** sin

1. **Bitterness**

2. **Resentment**

3. **Hurt feelings**

4. **Anger**

Stay **loyal** as you work things out.

Find an **older** couple who are **successful** and get their **help**. (Titus 2)