

How to Deepen Your Marriage

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I. Introduction.

II. Essentials for marriage.

A. A healthy relationship with God.

B. Willingness to work at it.

III. Husbands and wives are different from each other because God made them this way for a specific purpose and to work together in harmony. (1 Corinthians 12)

IV. Overcoming some differences.

A. Be careful with why questions that come across as accusatory.

B. We need to capitalize on the strengths of one another.

C. Take differences and turn them into assets.

V. In order to be one flesh (best friends)...

A. We need to know we need God's help. (Proverbs 24:3-4)

B. We need to know ourselves.

C. We need to study our spouses. (Ephesians 4:32)

1. Be kind to one another.

2. Be understanding.

3. Forgive one another. (Proverbs 17:9)

VI. General differences between men and women.

A. Men tend to be more objective. Women tend to be more subjective.

B. Men tend to be more essential minded. Women tend to be more detail minded.

C. Men tend to be logical. Women tend to be emotional.

D. Men use speech to communicate facts while women use speech more to communicate feelings.

VII. Understanding requires...

A. Communication.

B. Prayer. (James 1:5)

C. A willingness to change.

D. Acceptance.

Application questions:

1. How have you seen differences in your mate add strength?

2. What differences do you tend to struggle with the most?

3. How can you turn those differences into something positive?
