

Being On The Same Team

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I. Go over the Basics.

- A. The Bible repeats things.
- B. Remind yourself of the good things.
- C. Have commitments in Marriage.
 - 1. Daily time with the Lord.
 - 2. Pray with your mate.
 - 3. Commit to a weekly date.
- D. Husbands: understand your wife.
- E. Wives: do your husband good all the days of your life. (Proverbs 31)
- F. Treat wife like a special vessel. (1 Peter 3:7)
- G. Be heirs together of the grace of life.

II. Minister to, and with your mate.

- A. Marriage advice (Philippians 2:2-5)
 - 1. One spirit
 - 2. 100% give
 - 3. Look out for someone else's interest
 - 4. Consider one another
- B. Come to the reality that the other person cannot fully meet our needs.
 - 1. Only Jesus Christ can fully meet our needs.
- C. Freely be able to minister to spouse with out manipulation.
- D. Marriage is the commitment to minister to one another's felt needs.
- E. Real love is the preoccupation with the other's needs.
- F. Opposite of ministry is manipulation.

G. We are either manipulating or ministering to our mate.

III. How do we have our needs met?

A. Ignore needs

1. Athletics

2. Alcohol

B. Find satisfaction in achievement.

1. First ministry is to your spouse

C. Attempt to have needs met in one another.

1. Co-dependency.

2. Leads to manipulation.

3. Only God can fully and completely meet my needs.

IV. Scenarios of ministry or manipulation.

A. Businessman's verses (James 4:13-17)

B. Pre-plan time together.

1. Good Samaritan

a) Took care of the man and kept his appointment

b) Did not compromise priorities

2. Want the very best.

3. Urgent should not crowd out the important.

a) Do not retreat.

b) Take on one issue at a time.

c) Follow the rules.

D. How to tell if you are being manipulated.

1. Wall of coolness.

2. Withdrawal.

E. When you sense manipulation.

1. Move toward the fire.
2. Acknowledge with feeling.
3. Think of creative way to resolve.

F. Choosing to minister

1. It is your job to meet your spouse's felt needs.
2. God is responsible to meet your needs.
3. Highest purpose is to be an instrument to promote spiritual and personal welfare.