

V. AFFECTION

- A. Most spouses are **starving** for affection.

“Be kindly affectionate to one another...”

Romans 12:10a

- B. Give your spouse **time** plus **touch**.

“1 Now concerning the things of which you wrote to me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman. 2 Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband.

3 Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband.

4 The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.

5 Do not deprive one another except with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.”

I Corinthians 7:1-5

What do you need to do to better serve God in your family?

“And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

Joshua 24:15

FAMILY MATTERS Secrets To A Satisfying Marriage Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

- A. Will your family survive in today’s culture? Many people say that the traditional idea of the family is finished. The family institution today may be fragmented, but it is definitely not finished. Your family can survive and thrive!

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- B. In this series you will discover the Biblical secrets for a successful family. This eight part series features the following messages:

Feb 8	Secrets To A God-Honoring Family
Feb 15	Secrets To Being Single And Happy
TODAY	Secrets To A Satisfying Marriage
Mar 1	Secrets For Great Communication
Mar 8	Secrets For Debt Free Living
Mar 15	Secrets For Successful Parenting
Mar 22	Secrets For Fruitful Grandparenting
Mar 29	Secrets For A Lasting Family

This series is for everyone!

- C. **TEXT:** Proverbs 5:18-19 (Pew Bible/Pg. 204/Old Test.)

SECRETS TO A SATISFYING MARRIAGE

I. ACCEPTANCE

- A. Opposites often **attract** before marriage and then **attack** after marriage.

“15 But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!”

Galatians 3:15

- B. **Receive** your spouse.

“Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.” Romans 15:7

“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.” Genesis 1:27

“Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.” Ephesians 5:33

II. ADJUSTMENT

- A. Don't focus on **changing** your spouse.

“Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.”

Philippians 2:4

- B. **Submit** to your spouse.

“submitting to one another in the fear of God.”

Ephesians 5:21

The Five Love Languages by Dr. Gary Chapman

- Words Of **Affirmation**
- Quality **Time**
- Receiving **Gifts**
- Acts Of **Service**
- Physical **Touch**

III. AMNESTY

- A. Bitterness will **bury** your marriage.

“looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;”

Hebrews 12:15

- B. **Forgive** your spouse.

“Hatred stirs up strife, But love covers all sins.”

Proverbs 10:12

“13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.” Colossians 3:13, 19

IV. APPRECIATION

- A. Criticism **depreciates** your marriage.

“Death and life are in the power of the tongue,...”

Proverbs 18:21a

“Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.” Ephesians 4:24

- B. **Praise** your spouse.

“Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; A stranger, and not your own lips.”

Proverbs 27:2