

Secrets of a Satisfying Marriage

Building Strong Families Series
Take Home Handout
May 2, 2010

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

*And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.
1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (NIV)*

"... Live together in harmony and love, as though you only had one mind and spirit between you." Philippians 2:2 (Ph)

SIX SECRETS OF A SATISFYING MARRIAGE:

1. _____

"Reliable communication permits progress." Proverbs 13:17 (LB)

"Speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ." Ephesians 4:15 (NIV)

Speaking the truth without love is _____.

Speaking in love without truth is _____.

“If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.” 1 Corinthians 13:1 (NIV)

2. _____

“Love is patient, love is kind.” 1 Corinthians 13:4 (NIV)

"Show your love by being helpful to each other." Ephesians 4:2b (TEV)

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV)

3. _____

"... Love does not demand its own way." 1 Corinthians 13:5 (LB)

4. _____

"Let (your mate's) affection fill you at all times with delight..." Proverbs 5:19b (RSV)

"Enjoy life with your mate, whom you love..." Ecclesiastes 9:9a (NIV)

5. _____

“It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.” 1 Corinthians 13:7 (NIV)

6. _____

"Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus Christ." Philippians 2:5 (NIV)

“A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.” Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NIV)