

Making "I Do" Last a Lifetime

Statistics say half of all marriages end in divorce. But no one walks down the aisle expecting to fail. So why does "I Do" so often turn into "I Don't"? Broken homes...a culture of divorce... Hollywood ideals of love and romance. When the honeymoon is over and life is not a fairytale after all, couples become disappointed and disillusioned. And in our society, it is easy to say "I Don't" when the honeymoon has faded.



How can you avoid becoming one of the statistics and make your relationship last a lifetime? Here are a few secrets:

Talk...and listen – Talk about what is important to you, and listen when they need to talk. Lean on each other for advice and help. Remember, your spouse is your best friend, the one you can talk to about *anything*.

Fight fair – Sometimes fighting is necessary to work out conflicts. Just avoid accusing, name-calling, and being mean. A fight is a means to an end...the goal is to resolve an issue, not tear them down or prove you're right.

Have fun – Take time to laugh together and have fun. Don't get so caught up in the day-to-day stress of life that you forget why you got together in the first place!

Be selfless (a selfish approach!) – Put your spouse's needs above your own. Think about what is best for them, instead of what you want. Amazingly, you will find your own needs being met!

Believe together – When you share faith, you have power together to face the problems that will come your way. You become stronger together when you are united as one in God.

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