

How To Fool-Proof Your Marriage

There have been a lot of weddings here lately! So much planning & prep!

Unfortunately, too often there is more that goes into planning a wedding (& the reception) than there is in preparing for the marriage that follows!

Maybe this is why up to 1/2 of the marriages in America end in divorce!

A wedding is a 1 day event, a marriage is a lifelong covenant commitment!

Marital Vows - I, _____, take you, _____ to be my wife/husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, to join with you and share all that is to come. I promise to be faithful to you until death parts us, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, as long as we both shall live. Before God and these witnesses, I pledge myself to this covenant.

How foolish it is to stand before God, family & friends and declare these words & then not live them out!

Can there be such a thing as a fool-proof marriage? Yes!

- A fool-proof marriage starts before it begins!

“How To Avoid Marrying A Jerk!” Useful tools - F.A.C.E.S and R.A.M.

Consider the importance - Next to giving your life over to Jesus Christ, what greater decision is there in all of life than choosing your spouse?

This is where the book of Proverbs is so helpful. It’s a book for gaining wisdom & protecting against playing the fool! Great implications for marriage!

Proverbs 12:4 – “A wife of noble character is her husband’s crown, but a disgraceful wife is like decay in his bones.”

Proverbs 31:10 – “An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels.” For more excellent qualities read the rest of Ch 31.

There is a cultural implication here that needs to be understood. But the principle is to choose a person to marry who fits this description.

- Fool-Proofing oneself is essential to a fool-proof marriage!

We must strive to be the kind of person that someone w/noble character would choose to be with! Would such a person be attracted to you?

Proverbs again is helpful – **“Charm is deceitful, and beauty is passing, but a woman (man) who fears the Lord is to be praised.”** Prov. 31:30

Being a charming man or a beautiful woman should not be what we strive for, but being a Godly man/woman should be our aim!

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and **“Whoever finds (wisdom) finds life and receives favor from the Lord.”** Prov. 8:35

What is included in such favor from God – **“He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord.”** Proverbs 18:22

Do you see the connection? If you pursue wisdom/Godliness, you will find favor, which may include finding a spouse that is worthy of praise

Be the person, a Godly woman/man would be attracted to!

- A fool-proof marriage seeks out wise counsel!

“Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.” – Proverbs 15:22 Consider this when seeking a spouse!

Do you have wise people who can speak truth into your life regarding your relationships? If not, you need them!

Who you marry is too important a decision to make in a vacuum!

Sometimes we must protect ourselves from ourselves!

Surround yourself with those who put Christ first and they will give you the counsel needed to choose a spouse wisely!

- A fool-proof marriage is built upon a Christ-like love! 1 Cor. 13

“Your love is steady & unchanging, a mountain firm beneath our feet”

“Your love never fails, it never gives up, it never runs out on me”

“Love ran red”- A love willing to lay down one’s life for another.”

“In Christ alone, my hope is found” “Here in the love of Christ I stand.”

How can marital vows, said on the wedding day, be lived out every day of the marriage? Pursue a fool-proof, proverbs driven marriage!

10-21-18 How To Fool-Proof Your Marriage

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