

# WISDOM FOR A SUCCESSFUL MARRIAGE

Sylvester Onyemalechi

*Gen 2:18*

*18 The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."*

*NIV*

*Prov 18:22*

*22 He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the LORD.*

*NIV*

## WHAT IS MARRIAGE?

1. Marriage is oneness.
2. Marriage is the blending of two hearts in love.
3. Marriage is the blending of two souls.

*1 Cor 6:15-17*

*15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! 16 Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." 17 But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.*

*NIV*

- Sex bonds two souls together.
- Sex was created by God to be experienced and enjoyed within marriage.
- Sex in marriage brings about a blending of the souls of the couple.

It is even more difficult to break the tie that exists between two virgins that married themselves. The bond of love is always two strong. No matter what they go through in marriage, they remain together. This is the reason God wants men and women to marry as virgins.

4. Marriage is the blending of two lives who grew up a different locations, environment, school, had different acquaintances, relationships and parents with their different principles and values.

A man's experiences and learning form his personality.

## 10 THINGS YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT MARRIAGE

1. Your marriage is your life.
2. Marriage will either increase you or reduce you.
3. Your marriage will either make you a happy person or a sad person.
4. Your marriage can complete your life or complicate it.
5. Your marriage can fill the void in you and be an answer to the missing link or be the greatest mistake of your life.
6. Your marriage will either elevate you or pin you down.

7. Marriage is not as easy as it appears from the outside. It takes hard work and determination to make it sweet and enjoyable.
8. Marriage will either give you rest or restlessness. The choice is yours. It all depends on what you want, the thoughts you think, who you listen to, your associates, your mentor, principles you walk by, above all, the daily decisions you make.
9. Marriage is to be enjoyed and not endured.
10. You can never know more about marriage more than the one who created marriage – God.
  - His relationship with Israel is likened to that of a husband and a wife. Israel is referred to as the wife.

*Ezek 16:23*

*23 "Woe! Woe to you, declares the Sovereign LORD. In addition to all your other wickedness,*

*NIV*

- His relationship with the Christian, he likened to a marriage – Jesus is the groom and Church is the bride

*Rev 19:7-9*

*7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. 8 Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.) 9 Then the angel said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!'" And he added, "These are the true words of God."*

*NIV*

*Eph 5:22-33*

*22 Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. 28 In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church- 30 for we are members of his body. 31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." 32 This is a profound mystery-but I am talking about Christ and the church. 33 However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.*

*NIV*

- God has experience in marriage.
- All of us need to submit to him to teach us on marriage.

## WHAT MARRIAGE INVOLVES

1. Marriage is a game of love.
  - Love brought you together. Love will keep you together.
2. Marriage is to spend and be spent.
  - It requires your best and your all. No reservations.
3. Marriage can be a bed of roses. But remember, that there is no rose that is not accompanied by thorns.
  - There might be rough times, clash of interest and opinions, interference from family, internal and external forces, spiritual and natural forces, unfulfilled dreams and visions disappointment and failures.
  - Understanding, patience, maturity and discretion with prayers will make it a bed of roses despite all adversity.
4. Love is the foundation, the wall and roof of marriage.  
The question is, “what is love?”

*1 Cor 13:4-8*

*4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 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.*

*NIV*

5. Your decisions in marriage determine your experience per time.
  - Every other person is an adviser.
  - Your parent, in-laws, friends, colleagues, pastors and brethren are all advisers.
  - You make all the decisions. And your decisions determine your experiences.
  - No one will take responsibility or held accountable for your decisions and consequences, but you. It is always you, and you alone.
  - You can't blame anyone for your thoughts, words actions and reactions. Only yourself.
  - Be wise always apply wisdom. Live by the word of God.
6. It takes love understanding, patience, courage, faith, hope, prayers and positive thinking, positive words and actions to blend two different people from two different backgrounds into one.
7. Marriage requires focus.
  - The purpose of coming together in marriage must be pursued without distraction.

## VERY IMPORTANT FACTS

1. A man or woman that is not broken will have a crisis-full marriage.
  - To be broken is to allow the Holy Spirit to be absolutely in control of one's life and manifest a lowly and meek character.

2. Your friend can be a plus to your marriage or minus.
  - Be careful about those who speak into your marriage.
3. The gateway to your future is your mind.
  - What you see is what you get.
  - What you imagine is what you create.
  - What you think is what you are and what you will become.

*Prov 23:7*

*7 For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.*

*KJV*

*Prov 27 19*

*19 As in water face answers to face, so the mind of man to man.*

*RSV*

4. Success and failure in your marriage depend on what you think about your partner as events unfold.
5. Anger is an enemy of progress. Kill it before it kills your marriage.
6. If you change the picture in your mind, you can change your experience.
  - What is the picture in your mind right now about your spouse, your children and about everything that is happening in your home that you don't like.
  - Change those pictures deliberately, and with time your experience will change.
7. What do you do with this message will prove how serious you are about making your marriage work.

God bless your marriage.

## **WORD OF WISDOM**

1. **A wayward man or woman will be a wayward husband or wife. To marry someone you know has not repented of his or her immoral life is foolishness. You will have no right to complain that he or she is unfaithful to you since you knew that has been his or her manner of life. Wait till he or she has fully changed before engaging him or her in marriage.**
2. **If you marry someone out of pity or someone marries you out of pity, you will soon pity yourself.**
3. **A man without vision has no focus in life. He has nothing driving him on in life. It is important that you marry a man with vision, because a man with vision has**

direction in his life – he knows where he is going. To marry a man who does not know where he is going or is going nowhere, is invitation to crisis.

4. Life is more than 'I love you'. The experiences of life affect love. It can make it grow, and it can make it die. It is therefore important people planning to get married should look at the future before making a final decision for or against marrying a particular person.
5. It is therefore wise for a lady to look out for a caring man who will make a good husband. Unfortunately, ladies mistake buying gifts to mean caring. I do agree that if you care for someone you will buy the person gifts, but you must also understand that someone can buy you a gift without caring for you. Caring goes beyond gifts. How much time is the person willing to give to you? In the case of illness and unpleasant experiences, will he be willing to share his time with you and be there when you need him? There are many questions you need to ask to find out how much love he has for you. Look out for a caring man. As you relate, keep your eyes open.