

Keys To A Crazy Marriage

Have you been married for a long time? Are you a newlywed, recently engaged or maybe still waiting for Mr. Right?

When you think of marriage what comes to mind? Do thoughts of your spouse bring a smile to your face and a warm fuzzy feeling to your heart? Or do those thoughts make your forehead wrinkle and cause an internal groan to escape from your gut?

My husband, Keith and I have been married for over 25 years and I can honestly say that marriage is wonderful and amazing. I can also honestly say that it's challenging and requires willingness to compromise.

Marriage is more than passionate sparks and wedding bells. Having honeymoon memories and a box of chocolate on Valentines Day are nice but they're not enough to keep the matrimonial strings closely woven together.

If you've been married for any length of time, you've most likely experienced some of these experiences:

Happy moments and stressful seasons

Wonderful conversations and tense arguments

Laughter and tears

Harsh words and dead silence

Passion and anger

Here's the truth...

Marriage can be a crazy wild ride filled with adventure. The journey of marriage can be incredibly exciting or painfully empty. It's all depends on what a husband and wife are willing to pour into their harmonial marriage mix.

Do you want your marriage to thrive and your love for your spouse to grow stronger with each passing day? I hope you do and here is what I call the **10 Keys to a Crazy Marriage** that can help you along the way.

My prayer is that as you include these keys in your day-to-day life, it will turn your ho-hum marriage into a crazy-in-love marriage!

1. **Patience** – *May God, who gives this **patience** and encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other, as is fitting for followers of Christ Jesus. **Romans 15:5***

2. **Sacrificial Giving** – *Give, and it will be given to you; a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over—will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. **Luke 6:38***

3. **Perseverance** – *You need to **persevere** so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. **Hebrews 10:36***

4. **Communication** – *Don't say anything that would hurt another person. Instead, **speak only what is good** so that you can give help wherever it is needed. That way, what you say will help those who hear you. **Ephesians 4:29***

5. **Servant's heart** – *Serve one another humbly in love. **Galatians 5:13b***

6. **Commitment** - *Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their efforts. For if either falls, his companion can lift him up; but pity the one who falls without another to lift him up. Also, if two lie down together, they can keep warm; but how can one person alone keep warm? And if someone overpowers one person, two can resist him. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12a*

7. **Laughter** – *.A cheerful disposition is good for your health Proverbs 17:22*

8. **Unity** - *A man will leave his father and mother and will remain united with his wife, and the two will be one...Therefore, don't let anyone separate what God has joined together. Matthew 19:5b-6*

9. **Love** – **1 Corinthians 13** (the whole chapter is on love)

10. **God Centered** – May they be one, as You, Father, are in Me and I am in You. **May they also be one in Us**, so the world may believe You sent Me.
John 17:21

Each of these keys are important, but if I had to pick one to as the greatest of them all, I would have to pick #10 – **A marriage that is God Centered.**

A marriage without God as its center holds the greatest potential of not surviving. When life's challenges toss us around and potentially threaten our marriages to be shipwrecked, God is the "anchor" that holds us steady and keeps us from capsizing.

Prayer: Lord, thank you for my marriage. Help me to love my spouse, _____ the same unconditional way that you love me. Bless our marriage and keep us united in our decisions, goals, and plans for our future together. Help us to be patient, kind, and faithful as we seek to serve You each day. Amen

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