## Angie's Marriage Column - December 4, 2014 5 Tips for a Happy Marriage

**1.** Base EVERTHING you do in marriage on the principles that God has outlined for couples in the Holy Scriptures. Without God, marriage is like a train wreck just waiting to happen.

(note) all the rest of the tips you will automatically be doing if you only follow tip number 1. Read more <u>biblical facts about marriage here</u>.

**2.** Know what your roles and responsibilities as a husband / wife are. Marriage has many responsibilities; however the most important responsibility is to make sure <u>our Godly role compliments that of our spouse</u>. For example; wives are their husband's *helpmeet*, so their role would be to *meet* with their husband's to create harmony and fruits in the marriage.

The HUGE problem in most marriages today is wives do just the opposite and DO NOT meet with their husband's, but rather become contrary and bossy with them, which creates disharmony and no fruits for the marriage. Funny thing is, most wives (I used to be too) are bossy, controlling, and downright belittling and they don't even realize it. We need to just let our men be and stop trying to micromanage everything they do and say. Let's work at trying to be by our man's side rather than head over him. It will improve your marriage one hundred fold!!

Believe it or not ladies, our husband's want to be in control of their life, not be told what to do. TEAM WORK. We wives are not our husband's boss; he probably already has one of those; I think he'd like to come home to a smiling, happy wife who loves him; what do you think?

Another example is for husbands to love and care for their wives as Jesus Christ would His people. Would Christ be demanding, controlling, or abusive with His people? Of course not! Jesus always found ways to converse with His followers in a way that does not push them away but rather they wanted to follow Him. This is

the way it should be for husbands and wives, instead of couples going their own way.

One thing I have learned in my own marriage is when a wife is bossy or micromanaging her husband's every move, the husband is not in the most loving mood with his wife. If the wife is already controlling what's going to happen with her and with him in the marriage, it leaves the husband with nothing to do. I truly believe this is belittling to a man's manhood AND his TRUE PURPOSE FOR MARRIAGE AS THE HEAD (CAPTAIN).

Throughout the bible, God treats marriage VERY seriously; find out more here.

**3.** Be a giver rather than a taker - There is no room for selfishness in marriage. Couples absolutely need to look for ways to be giving and loving to one another.

Read how a TRUE CHRIST-One husband should behave with his wife here.

**4. Marriage takes team effort.** ALL happy marriages are managed by both husband and wife. You see, this goes back to tip number 2. Know what your role is.

The husband needs to assume his role as the head over the wife (not in a demanding way but in a loving, protective way) and the wife needs to assume her role as helpmeet to her husband.

You see wives, God appointed husband's to be head over the wife BECAUSE HE already knew that two captains trying to steer the ship would not work. And marriage is only one ship with one helm. However, HE also knew that the captain could not do it alone so HE created the first mate (helpmeet) to be by the captain's side in everything.

Husbands and wives actually complement each other perfectly when each spouse assumes their proper roles. Are you steering your marriage in the direction it should go, or are you steering your ship further away from God's plan for you both?

Read about how a wife helps her husband take his headship position and be the captain in their marriage.

5. You have more than ears to hear so <u>APPLY these Godly principles into your marriage</u> starting today and watch your marriage become enriches with blessings, which are fruits of the Spirit of Jesus Christ!!

Read more about teamwork of marriage here.

Remember, it's not about you and what you can get out of the marriage, but what you can bring into the marriage through assuming the role God appointed you as the woman (wife) or the man (husband). Work together!

Most married couples do not realize how they actually fight with and contradict one another because they are not assuming their proper roles. They make marriage much, much more difficult to manage and they remain in this attitude of unhappiness. Let <u>it</u> (control of each other) go!!

Instead of just saying, "I Love you", show love in your actions!!

Be blessed,
Angie and Frank
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Do you have a marriage question that you want biblical answers to? Let us know and we'll pray about it, research it and answer it with the understanding and wisdom God has blessed us with. It's not what Frank or Angie can do for your marriage; it is between YOU and God. We're just the messengers.

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