

11 Things a Husband and Wife Must Agree On

In marriage, there are certain things that you can “agree to disagree” on and other things that you absolutely must agree upon. A husband and wife must agree on the following:

1. You are married for life, no matter what; except possibly for unfaithfulness, abuse or abandonment. Therefore, the “D” word, divorce, should never be used.
2. Your marriage is a top priority and you will do whatever you need to do to strengthen it.
3. You will strive to meet the sexual needs of your mate. Sex will not be withheld as punishment or because of lack of interest.
4. You will always be honest with your spouse and will speak the truth in love. That means no secrets.
5. Whether you would like to have children and how many you would like to have.
6. Where you will live and what you will live in.
7. When and how you will discipline your children.
8. You and your spouse will always honor your parents and in-laws, but you and your spouse, not your parents or in-laws, will make the decisions in your marriage and for your children.
9. How much you will spend, save and share.
10. Whether you will have debt and, if so, what kind and how much you will allow.
11. Who you will worship and where you will worship.

Which of these areas is toughest for you and your spouse to agree upon?

– Mark Merrill, Family First
www.markmerrill.com

Check out Gary Thomas' new book *Cherish*



RESOURCES FOR COUPLES

Your marriage can be one of your life's most rewarding relationships!

It's a challenge to build a strong, God-honoring relationship. But so worthwhile! Whatever your age, whether dating, engaged, or married, there's a class or seminar for you.

Have you considered helping others? Marriage Team invites you and your spouse to become a coach couple. With 20 hours training, you will learn practical skills to encourage couples in all stages of their relationship. Pre-married to seriously challenged couples are saving their marriages with the support of couple coaches like YOU! Free training starting Mar 10 in Vancouver, WA. Details at www.MarriageTeam.org.

Weekend to Remember The speakers will show you how to pursue a marriage that really works through stories of their own breakthroughs, blunders, tears and laughter. We want you to leave the weekend with encouragement and practical tools to grow your relationship. Mar 10-12 at Sunriver Resort. Details at www.WeekendToRemember.com. Save big on registration by joining as part of group “MarriagePDX”.

Marriage Encounter A weekend that can help married couples turn a good marriage into a GREAT marriage. Rediscover the best friend you had when you were first married! Join the millions of couples worldwide who have learned how to keep their marriage vibrant and alive! Catholic weekend Mar 31-Apr 2 at Powell Butte (contact James and Marisol Carter (503) 853-2758). Or the Assembly of God weekend Mar 10-12 in Seattle, contact <https://AGME.org/>

Couples Conference: Solomon, Sex and Marriage at Cannon Beach Conference Center. Shane & Phyllis Womack lead a frank biblical study of the Song of Solomon. Learn how this Old Testament book relates to marriage today. Apr 7-9, CBCC.net.

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Every Marriage Matters

Advocates for Healthy Marriage

Check out additional resources at www.EveryMarriageMatters.org