

Keep your love alive by JONATHAN TOGONON

愛情を長持ちさせる方法

It's surprising how many husbands and wives end up separated or divorced after years of marriage.

It's becoming harder to keep the love alive between a husband and a wife these days, it seems.

There are so many excuses and temptations to take the exit door. But marriage shouldn't have an exit door. It didn't have, until society and law allowed one. And if we nurture our marriage, it could be the most wonderful thing that ever happened to our lives outside of salvation.

Marriage is a covenant of love. It is a commitment between a man and a woman who loves each other, to live together in harmony and cooperation in order to build a home, grow children and fulfill their part in God's plans for humanity. It is our responsibility to keep the relationship strong and alive through the years. It is God's part to bless it!

Always express your love to your spouse. The life of marriage is the love shared by the husband and the wife. Find out how you can express your love for your partner:

* Words of affirmation * Acts of service * Taking time to be with him/her * Gifts, even without an occasion * Tender touch

Always plan together. Couples usually plan together in the early part of their marriage, then gradually slip into solo flights. Planning together makes your partner know and feel that he or she is always in your mind and part of your life.

Always pray together. Nothing is accomplished successfully without the help of God, and no family is truly blessed by God without the agreement of the husband and the wife. If you planned it together, pray for it together.

Celebrate all the wonderful moments together. Every birth of a child, every new car or house, every school graduation or career move, is a family landmark worth celebrating. Whether grand or simple, always celebrate together.

I believe that God has already blessed our marriages even before we knelt down at the altar to say our vows. And when we hold God's promises and blessing by faith, we can be sure that God will pour them all out for us to receive and enjoy.

BIO RESOURCE

単語ピックアップ

minister 聖職者・牧師

pastor 牧師

preach 説教する

end up ～で終わる

separate 別居する

divorce 離婚する

between A and B AとBの間で

it seems ～のようだ

excuse いいわけ

temptation 誘惑

take the exit door 出口からでていく（結婚関係を終わりにする）

allow 許す

could ～になりうる

outside of ～以外で

salvation （キリスト教）救い

covenant 契約

commitment コミットメント、約束

each other お互いを

humanity 人類

responsibility 責任

bless 加護を与える

express 表現する

spouse 伴侶

find out 見つける、見つけ出す

affirmation 確信を持った発言

tender やさしい

gradually だんだん

solo 一人の

pray 祈る

accomplish 達成する

celebrate 祝う

landmark ランドマーク、記念碑

worth ~ing ~する価値がある

grand 大きい

kneel down しゃがむ

the altar 祭壇

vow 誓い