

Making Love Last

The Principle

No sexual intimacy or interest outside of marriage.

You shall not commit adultery. Exodus 20:14 NIV

You have heard that it was said, “You must not be guilty of adultery.” But I tell you that if anyone looks at a woman and wants to sin sexually with her, in his mind he has already done that sin with the woman. Matthew 5:27-28 NCV

The Purpose

Sexual intimacy is both physical and spiritual and requires mutual trust to be fully enjoyed.

Marriage should be honored by everyone, and husband and wife should keep their marriage pure. God will judge as guilty those who take part in sexual sins. Hebrews 13:4 NCV

The Practice

When married: I will be committed to intimacy with only my spouse. Before marriage: I will be faithful to the person I one day hope to marry.

Keep your mind clear, and be alert. Your opponent the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion as he looks for someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8 GWT

8 ingredients for a lasting love...

1. Friendship (companionship)

Then the LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is right for him.” Genesis 2:18 NCV

2. Trust (integrity)

Delilah said to Samson, “How can you say that you love me when your heart isn’t mine? You’ve made fun of me three times now, but you still haven’t told me what makes you so strong.” Every day she made his life miserable with her questions. She pestered him until he wished he were dead. Finally, he told her the truth...” Judges 16:15-17 GWT

3. Loyalty (support)

Many people claim to be loyal. But it is hard to find someone who really can be trusted. Proverbs 20:6 ICB

4. Fun (enjoyment)

Enjoy life with the wife you love. Enjoy all the days of this short life God has given you here on earth. It is all you have. So enjoy the work you have to do here on earth.

Ecclesiastes 9:9 ICB

5. Passion (touch)

Then Isaac brought Rebekah into the tent of Sarah, his mother. And she became his wife. Isaac loved her very much...

Genesis 24:67 ICB

6. Family and Friends (fellowship)

We must also consider how to encourage each other to show love and to do good things. We should not stop gathering together with other believers...Instead, we must continue to encourage each other even more as we see the day of the Lord coming.

Hebrews 10:24-25 GWT

The believers had a single purpose and went to the temple every day. They were joyful and humble as they ate at each other's homes and shared their food. At the same time, they praised God and had the good will of all the people. Every day the Lord saved people, and they were added to the group.

Acts 2:46-47 GWT

7. Acceptance (unconditional love)

If one falls, the other can help his friend get up. But how tragic it is for the one who is alone when he falls. There is no one to help him get up.

Ecclesiastes 4:10 GWT

Love never stops being patient, never stops believing, never stops hoping, never gives up. Love never comes to an end...

1 Corinthians 13:7-8 GWT

8. Faith (reliance)

Again, if two people lie down together, they can keep warm, but how can one person keep warm? Though one person may be overpowered by another, two people can resist one opponent. A triple-braided rope is not easily broken.

Ecclesiastes 4:11-12 GWT

So they are no longer two but one. Therefore, don't let anyone separate what God has joined together.

Matthew 19:6 GWT