

Meditation – A Marriage Team

This endearing love passage written by the Apostle Paul describes the love that God has for us; a love that has no bounds. This unmerited love is found in Creation, overflows upon the pages of Scripture, made evident in the living Word of Jesus Christ and is revealed in human relationships.

When two people enter the covenant of marriage, God's love can be reflected with great beauty through the joys and struggles of life together.

Randy and Sarah, since both of you enjoy team sports especially baseball and softball, I will invite you to see marriage as team with two players.

Here are a few tips for your marriage team.

First, practice together.

Being a team is not just about the games. Being a team means showing up for each other, practicing together and being patient through the hours of drills, skill development, loads of laundry and endless landscaping duties. In your marriage, spend time together as husband and wife teaching each other as a couple who embraces the daily routines of life. For these times of practice will help prepare you for playing the games and enduring when a game goes into extra innings.

Second, have a game plan.

Learn what plays work best on your team and make a game plan that will serve you well when a curve ball is thrown. Realize like baseball, hitting homeruns do not happen every day, plan on the walks and bunts to be just as effective in your marriage. Individually you can achieve much, but together you go further. Be intentional with your future, making conscious steps daily even if these steps are small. Because working together with a game plan, can place your future goals and dreams into a lived reality.

Third, teams work to succeed.

Successful teams take work through challenging teammates, supporting one another and celebrating the wins. Your spouse knows you the best and can challenge you the most. Accept these challenges with grace and pursue them with courage. Next, support one another during the losses. There are not always winning seasons. And don't forget to take time to celebrate the wins before moving on to the next practice or game.

Affirm one another with your words and actions in your marriage. Randy, make her laugh. Tell her thank you. Say I love you daily.

Sarah, encourage him. Tell him thank you. Say I love you daily.

Fourth, be allies instead of enemies.

Don't let wrongs pile up between you. Use the mistakes to gain wisdom rather than spur on conflict. Know each other's weaknesses and avoid using shortcomings to win arguments over trivial matters. Strong teams stick together in the good times and hard times. Randy continue to use words to pick up Sarah when she is down. Sarah continue to be that positive spirit in Randy's life.

Fifth, be a great team.

Know the qualities that separate good teams from the great teams. The great teams have players who trust each other. They are a team on AND off the field. Great teams have players who do not compete for the glory but share the spotlight. The best teams fall in love with one another.

Fall in love with each other during every season of your marriage. Enjoy taking your dogs Bella and Kali on walks. Go to the gym together. Share time around a table at your favorite restaurant.

Throughout all seasons of your marriage, hold hands and show the world you are a great team who is faithful to one another.

And lastly, great teams have legendary coaches! Allow God to be the coach of your marriage team. God will manage with a love that patient, kind, and true. And this coach will teach you both to experience a love in your marriage that bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things now and forevermore. Amen.