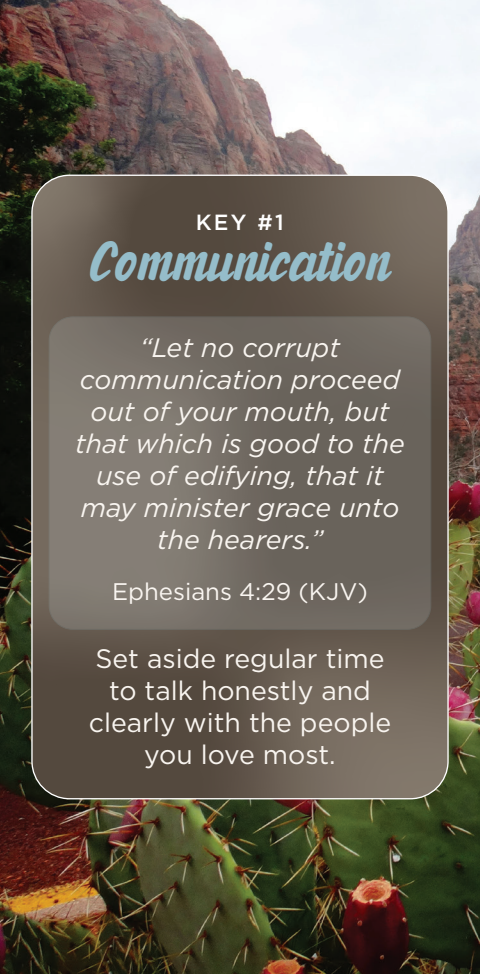


6 KEYS TO *Unlocking Relationship Potential*

Marriage is hard! But there are a few keys that can help you unlock your marriage's potential.

Not married? No problem!

These keys can apply to any relationship. Think of a significant relationship in your life—it could be with a spouse, sibling, parent, or friend. Then read through each key and decide which one you want to put into practice this week.



KEY #1

Communication

“Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.”

Ephesians 4:29 (KJV)

Set aside regular time to talk honestly and clearly with the people you love most.

KEY #2

Consideration

“You must learn to be considerate of one another, cultivating a life in common.”

1 Corinthians 1:10 (MSG)

Think of “we” instead of just “me.” Show courtesy, respect, and care to the other person in the relationship.

KEY #3

Compromise

*“Love does not demand
its own way.”*

1 Corinthians 13:5 (TLB)

People come to relationships with different personalities, backgrounds, and perspectives. So you have to learn to negotiate, be flexible, and sometimes give up your own rights to meet in the middle.

KEY #4

Contact

*“Honor God with
your bodies.”*

(1 Corinthians 6:20 NIV).

God made people to
need physical contact.
This can be expressed
through a hug, pat on the
back, or a handshake, and
within marriage, through
sexual intimacy.

The background of the entire image is a photograph of a desert scene. In the foreground, there are several large, dark, textured rocks. Behind them, there are various types of cacti, including some with bright orange and red flowers and others with purple blossoms. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

KEY #5

Commitment

“Make sure that you do not break your promise to be faithful to your [mate].”

Malachi 2:16 (GNT)

Some people think that the word “love” best summarizes the whole marriage relationship, but it’s really “commitment,” the resolve to stay together through thick and thin.

KEY #6

Christ

“God’s secret . . . is Christ himself. He is the key that opens all the hidden treasures of God’s wisdom and knowledge.”

Colossians 2:2-3 (GNT)

It takes three to make a marriage stand: you, your spouse, and Christ. Think of it like a three-legged stool; a two-legged stool will fall over, but a third leg gives stability.



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