VISION FOR YOUR MARRIAGE



Introduction

Why does our marriage need a vision?

1. God wants strong marriages. "Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate." Mark 10:9

2. We are prone to drift. "So we must listen very carefully to the truth we have heard, or we may drift away from it."Hebrews 2:1

3. Life brings all of us challenges. Unforeseen situations and circumstances present themselves and cause us to get off track. When we have a vision, it becomes our blueprint to help us remember God's work and promises in our life. "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you." Psalm 32:8

How do we create a vision for our marriage?

Plan a vision retreat! Get a hotel room or a cabin where you can enjoy your surroundings, take breaks and enjoy the outdoors or other activities. Make it a time of relaxation, fun and don't forget the romance! The retreat doesn't have to be an expensive endeavor. Get creative in planning your vision retreat. Begin by praying and asking God's direction as you plan the vision for your marriage. Take time to pray before going on your vision retreat. Bring your Bible, notebook or journal and some worship music. You want your hearts to be in unity. Allow the Lord to be the leader of this retreat. Let Him speak to you on each topic.

Lastly, use this guide to help you plan the vision for your marriage. You will notice this guide has different categories to explore and talk about together. The vision you create can be as simple or extensive as you would like it to be. Every year thereafter, schedule your retreat and evaluate how you are doing with your plan.

How will we benefit from doing this?

It will help you have laser focus and purpose on God's plan for your marriage and family.

Your future decision-making will center on the vision you developed together. You will be more likely to stay the course and not drift.

God is honored by a marriage centered on His purposes and plans. It proclaims to the world who He is.

Vision For Your Marriage

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. Ephesians 4:2-3

1. What are two characteristics that drew you to your spouse?

2. What do you admire most about your spouse?

3. What prayers are you praying for your spouse?

4. Why did God bring you together as husband and wife?

5. What is His purpose and plan for your life as a couple?

6. Are there dreams God has given you that you need to remember and pray with more diligence?

A good marriage isn't something you find; it's something you make. - Gary L. Thomas

7. What are specific steps you can take this year to align with God's purpose and plan for your life?

8. What daily practices can you implement to live out your love for one another?

9. What specific things or activities can you do to have fun together?

Additional Notes:

Family_

Dedicate your children to God and point them in the way that they should go, and the values they've learned from you will be with them for life. Proverbs 22:6

1. What is God's purpose and plan for your family?

2. What steps can you take this year to align with God's purpose and plan for your family?

3. What are your family values?

4. How do you instill those values in your children?

5. How do your daily decisions align with your family values?

Child #1 - What character qualities do you see in your child/grandchild you want to encourage?

Child #2 - What character qualities do you see in your child/grandchild you want to encourage?

Child #3 - What character qualities do you see in your child/grandchild you want to encourage?

6. What prayers are you praying over your children/grandchildren?

7. What values do you want to instill in your family this year?

Additional Notes:

In humility consider others better than yourselves. Philippians 2:3

Spiritual Growth

Discover creative ways to encourage others and to motivate them toward acts of compassion, doing beautiful works as expressions of love. Hebrews 10:24

1. How is your spiritual growth doing as an individual and as a couple?

2. What specific things can you do individually and as a couple to grow spiritually?

Reading God's Word?

Prayer?

Vision For Your Marriage

Encouragement?

Serving in your church?

3. What specific things can you do to help each other become more like Christ?

Additional Notes:

Finances

Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with the new wine. Proverbs 3:9-10

1. What changes in your finances should you make to align with God as your source and Lord over all?

Tithe?

Offerings?

Budget?

Vision For Your Marriage

2. How are you doing in saving for the future?

3. What steps can you take to plan accordingly?

Additional Notes:

Be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you. Ephesians 4:32



Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ. Colossians 3:23-24 NLT

1. Is God stirring either of you to make a change in your current work/ profession?

2. If so, what steps should you begin to take to make that change?

3. In what ways can you better honor God through your work/career?

Vision For Your Marriage

4. Are you doing what God has gifted and called you to do? If not, what can you do to change that?

Additional Notes:

Health/Fitness

Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, for God bought you with a high price. So, you must honor God with your body. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

1. How are you doing on your health and fitness?

2. What changes in your health would you like to see?

3. What are some specific ways you can accomplish these goals?

4. What ways can you become more fit and care for the earthly bodies God has given you?

Additional Notes:

The more you invest in marriage, the more valuable it becomes. - Amy Grant

Vision Statement for Marriage and Family

Taking the information you recorded on the previous pages, write out your vision statement for your marriage and family. (The following pages have a couple of examples for you to view.)

Marriage Vision Statement

- 1. We have made God the center of our marriage.
- 2. We treasure each other as a gift from God.
- 3. We speak life to each other.
- 4. We serve each other with a joyful heart.
- 5. We encourage each other and show a heart of gratitude.
- 6. We pray for each other.
- We are quick forgivers and do not allow offenses to become an obstacle in our marriage.
- 8. We serve the Lord together in his calling for our lives.
- 9. We keep our eyes and desires only for each other.
- 10. We are faithful stewards of all God has given to us.

Family Vision Statement

- 1. God is the center of our family.
- 2. Our family is a team and honors and encourages one another.
- 3. Our family prioritizes spending time together.
- 4. We give to the Lord first in all our earnings.
- 5. We live within our means and save for our future.
- We give of ourselves and show love to each other and the world. We live lives of thankfulness and gratitude.
- 7. We serve and use our gifts at our church.
- 8. We value honesty, integrity and authenticity.
- 9. We forgive quickly and avoid taking up offenses.

Love....always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 1 Corinthians 13:6-7 NIV

Take the free Marriage Assessment!



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