

## *Let's talk about:* The Making of a Great Marriage

*Dr. Mike, We've been married a long time and never really have been happy. Neither of us grew up in homes where our parents had good marriages. What can you tell us to help us have a better marriage?*

Both husband and wife must understand the five principles upon which every successful marriage is built.

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ (Ephesians 2:8-9). Both husband and wife genuinely know the Lord Jesus as personal Savior. Both give testimony to the Lord's saving work in their lives.

2. A \_\_\_\_\_ (Song of Solomon 5:16). It is not sufficient to say "We're both in love!" For a marriage to be successful, there must be a growing relationship where both husband and wife are becoming best friends.

- Understand the key word "Covenant" (Malachi 2:14) *beriyth* (ber-EETH)
- Understand the key word "Companion" (Malachi 2:14) *chabereth* (khab-EH-reth)

### **Stop the video and think through the following:**

Write out your definition of "friend."

Read John 15:1-17. According to 15:13, what does the Lord say that the best friend will do?

You may never have the opportunity of laying down your life for your spouse. However, what are several ways that you demonstrate the friendship kind of love to your spouse?

How would you like your spouse to demonstrate friendship to you?

3. A \_\_\_\_\_ (Ephesians 5:21). While there are plenty of disappointments along the way, both the husband and wife must have a sense of respecting their mate. This comes from sharing common core values which both embrace and hold.

4. A \_\_\_\_\_ (Philippians 3:10). Both husband and wife must share the passion for knowing the Lord and growing in His knowledge and ways.

5. A \_\_\_\_\_ (Amos 3:3). This means that we genuinely are sharing common convictions, held beliefs, and agree on the things that matter most in life.