

**Applying the Cement That Holds It Together**  
**Eph. 5: 25-30**

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1. Do you remember when you first saw him or her? You also may remember when that person hurt you deeply. Every marriage has its conflict.
2. Marriages go through stages of development.
3. In **Genesis 2:20-23**, God makes it clear that He created Man and Woman for mutual dependency. They are to cleave to one another and become one flesh.

**I. Context of Romance.**

- A It is important to understand that we were created for companionship.
  1. God created us male and female, in other words, as sexual beings. He intended that the romantic relationship would be one that would give pleasure.
- B Some would have us to adopt a negative attitude toward romance.
  1. The Bible says that any sexual relations outside of marriage is wrong and sinful.

**II. Heb 13:4, “Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure.”**

- A You cannot experience true intimacy without the commitment of marriage.
  1. Adultery is not merely a sin against God, it is also a sin against another person. Additionally it is a sin against yourself.
  2. 1 Cor. 6: 18-20, “Flee from sexual immorality.”

**III. Demonstrate Attention.**

- A It is possible for married couples to have an ongoing romantic relationship.
- B 1 Peter 3: 7, “Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives.”
  1. Phil. 1: 9, “And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight.”
- C Allow meaningful time for each other.
  1. Make it a priority and make time for each other.
- D Determine to have focused conversation.
  1. Phil. 2: 4, “Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.”

**IV. Communicate Appreciation.**

- A If you want to revive romance, give strokes and not pokes.
- B Rom 12:10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves
- C Solomon expresses his love in praise over 40 times.

**V. Celebrate Affection.**

- A God created us to need to be touched.