Having a Hard Marriage? You Might not be Working Hard Enough

I'll be married for seven years this year and I've learned quite a lot, but if I could mention one important thing I'll learned over the years it's that to have a great marriage, you must work hard at it, otherwise, you'll have a hard marriage. I don't know why so many people think that you get married and it's automatically like a fairy tale. Maybe it's because that's what we've read growing up as kids or because that's what we see on television, but that's not real life.

Marriage, just like other things take hard work to be great. Take for example athletes. The best athletes work hard to be great. They may have some type of quality that helps them excel in a certain area, but ultimately, it's the long hard hours they put into practice that ultimately make them better than others. It's the greatest athletes that are still in the gym when others leave and it's the greatest athletes who are in the gym before the others even arrive. It's the greatest athletes who are still practicing hard in the off season. They work hard to be great.

In the same way, famous actors and entertainers for the most part also worked hard to get where they're at. They didn't just do a script and become famous but worked hard over the years and eventually got recognized because of their hard work and determination.

In the workplace too, you can usually find someone whom worked hard to move up on the ladder of success and obtained a higher position and pay. What makes marriage so different? If you want to have a great marriage, you must work hard at it. Look at it like this, if you don't work hard at your marriage, you'll have a hard marriage, but if you work hard at your marriage, you'll have a great marriage. When I say great, I don't mean perfect. None of us have perfect marriages. That's impossible to have when you put two imperfect people together. When I say great, I mean a joyful, happy, fun, and fulfilling marriage.

Remember, marriage takes hard work, but the pay off is wonderful. Take your marriage seriously and continue to work hard at it and most importantly of all, keep Christ as the center, because no matter how hard you work at your marriage, if Christ is not in it, it'll definitely be a hard marriage.

9 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: 10 If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. 11 Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? 12 Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

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