

Sunday Morning | March 12, 2017



1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7 (NASB)

REALITY: Romance gets challenging as time passes.

How do we keep the fire of romance burning in marriage?

I. COMPLETE THE JOURNEY OF ROMANCE.

Five relational stages of romance that lead to marriage:

1. Attraction
2. Disappointment

TRUTH: Disappointment reveals reality, and if profound enough it can and should end the relationship.

REALITY: Many end their marriage because of disappointment.

TRUTH: Disappointment happens in every marriage and has to be worked through.

3. Acceptance

TRUTH: Acceptance is a foundation stone of any lasting marriage.

4. Appreciation

5. Relational intimacy

II. ACTION TRUMPS FEELINGS IN MARRIAGE.

TRUTH: Disappointment pours water on the fire of romance so you can't feel the heat of love.

1. Feelings >>> Actions: this is how people think life works.

2. Actions >>>Feelings: this is reality.

TRUTH: Meaningful marriage comes from actions not feelings.

REALITY: Every marriage is hard work, 24/7, demanding investment of time, energy and resources.

3. Romance → Reality → Actions → Feelings

4. Romance → Reality → Feelings → Death

III. GO FOR LOVE (1 Corinthians 13:4-7 NIV).

Elements of marital love:

1. You choose to trust them.

2. You choose to have hope in them.

3. You choose to persevere.

4. The one thing you can't have if the marriage lasts: an exit sign over the door.