



Thoughts on Marriage

I hear so many complaints from men and women that they cannot communicate with one another. Perhaps I am naive, but I do not understand this. Communication is essentially a matter of conversation. They must have communicated when they were courting. Can they not continue to speak together after marriage? Can they not discuss with one another in an open and frank and candid and happy way their interests, their problems, their challenges, and their desires?

It seems to me that communication is largely a matter of talking with one another. But let that talk be quiet, for quiet talk is the language of love. It is the language of peace. It is the language of God. The voice of heaven is a still small voice. The voice of peace in the home is a quiet voice. (Gordon B. Hinkley "Cornerstones of a Happy Home," Husbands and Wives Fireside Satellite Broadcast, January 29, 1984.)

Complete trust in each other is one of the greatest enriching factors in marriage. Nothing devastates the core of mutual love and trust necessary to maintain a fulfilling relationship, as does infidelity. There is never justification for adultery. Despite this destructive experience, occasionally marriages are saved and families preserved. To do so requires the aggrieved party to be capable of giving unreserved love great enough to forgive and to forget. It requires that the errant party want desperately to repent and actually forsake evil.

One's loyalty to his or her eternal companion should not be merely physical, but mental and spiritual as well. Since there are no harmless flirtations and no place for jealousy after marriage, it is best to avoid the very appearance of evil by shunning any questionable contact with another to whom we are not married. Virtue is the strong glue that holds it all together. Said the Lord, "Thou shalt love thy wife with all thy heart, and shalt cleave unto her and none else." (D&C 42:22.)

(James E. Faust - To Reach Even Unto You, p. 55)