

“Being a Sweetheart” Proverbs 13:12, 19

- I. Do you want your spouse to be a sweetheart?
- II. First, be a sweetheart.
 - A. Turn your attention from what your spouse does, John 3:16.
 - B. Concentrate on fulfilling your spouse’s expectations, needs and desires.
 - 1. “Hope deferred makes the heart sick,” Proverbs 13:12. Disappointed expectations create sadness and resentment.
 - 2. “A longing fulfilled is a tree of life,” Proverbs 13:12. Fulfilled expectations enliven us, filling us with zest for relationship.
 - C. “A longing fulfilled is sweet to the soul,” Proverbs 13:19
 - 1. Fulfilled expectations make us inwardly sweet.
 - 2. “Sweethearts” strive to fulfill the desires of the one they love.
 - 3. Being a “sweetheart” makes you like the Lord who strives to fulfill our expectations, Psalm 145:19.
- III. What “Sweethearts” do.
 - A. They care about their spouse’s expectations.
 - 1. Men and women enter marriage with both common and unique expectations, Ephesians 5:33.
 - 2. “Sweethearts” pay attention to their spouse’s expectations.
 - 3. “Sweethearts” see self as God’s instrument for fulfilling another’s expectations.
 - 4. “Caring” accepts responsibility for their partner’s “heart sickness,” Proverbs 13:12; 21:9; 25:24.
 - B. They accept their spouse’s expectations.
 - 1. Accepting isn’t the same as understanding.
 - 2. God created us physically and mentally, Genesis 2:7, 22; Psalm 139:13.
 - 3. Don’t try changing what God created
 - 4. Love is unselfish, 1 Corinthians 10:24; Philippians 2:3-4.
 - C. They strive to satisfy their spouse’s expectations.
 - 1. Do you want a “sweetheart”? Be a source of “sweetness,” Proverbs 13:19; 16:24; Ephesians 4:29.
 - 2. Ask God for help in being a “Sweetheart” Philippians 4:13.
 - 3. Go out of your way and, if necessary, deny yourself.
- IV. God abundantly satisfies the expectations of all who put His kingdom first, Matthew 6:33; Proverbs 11:25. Your family is a part of God’s kingdom He placed in your care.

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