

Josh and Lisa Surratt

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother and shall cleave unto his wife and they shall be one flesh.

Genesis 2:24 (KJV)

Cleave:

1. To adhere firmly and closely, loyally or unwaveringly
2. To separate into distinct parts especially into groups having divergent views

LEARNING TO LEAN IN TO YOUR SPOUSE

1. L - LEAN INTO GOD

Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NIV)

But I have this complaint against you. You don't love me or each other as you did at first!

Revelation 2:4 (NLT)

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

John 15:12-13 (NIV)

2. E - ENJOY EACH OTHER

3. A - ADDRESS THE ISSUES

Go ahead and be angry. You do well to be angry—but don't use your anger as fuel for revenge. And don't stay angry. Don't go to bed angry. Don't give the Devil that kind of foothold in your life.

Ephesians 4:26 (MSG)

4. N - "N"TIMACY

...It's good for a man to have a wife, and for a woman to have a husband. Sexual drives are strong, but marriage is strong enough to contain them and provide for a balanced and fulfilling sexual life in a world of sexual disorder. The marriage bed must be a place of mutuality—the husband seeking to satisfy his wife, the wife seeking to satisfy her husband. Marriage is not a place to "stand up for your rights." Marriage is a decision to serve the other, whether in bed or out. Abstaining from sex is permissible for a period of time if you both agree to it, and if it's for the purposes of prayer and fasting—but only for such times. Then come back together again. Satan has an ingenious way of tempting us when we least expect it. I'm not, understand, commanding these periods of abstinence—only providing my best counsel if you should choose them.

1 Corinthians 7:2-5 (MSG)