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# LET'S STAY TOGETHER

The secret to longevity: Treat her like a queen—and she will treat you like a king!

by DR. WILLIE JOLLEY

WHEN TWO PEOPLE GET MARRIED, they both want the union to work. But are they willing to work on it? Statistics say 50 percent of marriages in America end in divorce. And of the couples who remain together, more than 40 percent are miserable.

My wife, Dee Taylor-Jolley, and I could have been among the negative statistics. But thanks to advice from our happily married mentors, we have been married for 33 years and have not had an argument in over 30 years! We are often asked, “You have never had an argument?” I reply, “That is not what I said . . . we have not had an argument in over 30 years, but those first few years were like World War III!” And in one argument, we almost broke up while disagreeing about how much Chinese food to buy. Because of what we learned from those mentors, we have been able to go from arguing to loving. We have now shared our mentors’ tips in a book called *Make Love, Make Money, Make It Last! 10 Secrets to Shape a Great Marriage!*

Here are five of the tips that can help you create a great marriage:

#### TIP NO. 1: DECIDE TO MAKE IT LAST

People get married for many different reasons. A person you meet may look good, have a nice car or need a green card. It is easy to fall in love, yet if you don't keep growing your relationship you can fall out

of love as well. We have found that people in great marriages constantly fall in love over and over again. They keep growing and evolving and finding new reasons to stay in love with each other.

I recommend you make the decision to stay married and keep growing together. My wife and I made the choice that we would never leave the marriage. Our only way out of the marriage is death!

#### TIP NO. 2: MAKE YOUR SPOUSE FEEL SPECIAL

I start every speech I give talking about my bride. I tell people that my wife and I are newlyweds. Then I tell them we have been married for 33 years and say, “I would crawl over broken glass to get to her!” When I say to the world I love her enough to endure such peril for her, I am also proclaiming my love and devotion publicly.

The more I say it, the better she feels and the more I am reminded of how grateful I am to be married to her. Many ladies ask my wife what they can do to get their husbands to talk about them the same way. Her response: “He treats me good, and I reciprocate!”

#### TIP NO. 3: DON'T EVER STOP DATING YOUR MATE

Make it a point to have a date night every

week. You do not need to spend money, but you do need to spend time! When we started “date night,” we left the door to our bedroom open and ate popcorn while watching *Hill Street Blues* or *L.A. Law*. We told the kids they could walk by, but this was our date time. And we had one rule: We could not talk about the kids or the bills. We didn't have either when we fell in love. Make this your time for each other.

#### TIP NO. 4: HOLD TIGHT

Another tip for keeping the romance alive is to hold hands. An older gentleman told me that when you hold hands, you are also holding each other's hearts. It works!

#### TIP NO. 5: DEVELOP A LISTENING EAR

Make it a point to talk and to listen. Communicate, especially on how to disagree without being disagreeable. This is such a major issue that we give this chapter away for free on our website. We want to save 1 million marriages, so enjoy it with our compliments. Go to [jolleymarriage.com](http://jolleymarriage.com) for the information and learn the rest of our story about the Chinese food!

*Dr. Willie Jolley is the co-author of the exciting new book Make Love, Make Money, Make It Last! 10 Secrets to Shape a Great Marriage!*