



Reality Relationships

7 Essentials to Help You "Get Real" and "Get Right!"

Reality Relationships: Yesterday's Issues

by Dr. David H. McKinley

Essential #7:

**What you invested in your relationships
yesterday will not be sufficient to sustain
your relationships tomorrow.**

Gender Differences:

- A man will pay \$2 for a \$1 item he wants; a woman will pay \$1 for a \$2 item that she doesn't want.
- A woman worries about the future until she gets a husband; a man never worries about the future until he gets a wife.
- A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend; a successful woman is one who can find such a man.
- To be happy with a man you must understand him a lot and love him a little; to be happy with a woman you must love her a lot and not try to understand her at all.
- Married men live longer than single men, but married men are a lot more willing to die.
- Any married man should forget his mistakes—there's no use in two people remembering the same thing.
- A woman marries a man expecting he will change, but he doesn't; a man marries a woman expecting that she won't change and she does.
- A woman has the last word in any argument; anything a man says after that is the beginning of a new argument.
- There are two times when a man doesn't understand a woman: before marriage and after.

—JOHN MAXWELL, *Winning With People*

"Promises may get friends, but it is performance that keeps them." —BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

"When a relationship has a successful history, some may imagine that the work has been accomplished. But that is no more true than imagining that successful gardeners can skip watering and fertilizing this year because of their good track record. The fact that you have experience and confidence in your relationship

means that you know what needs to be done. It does not mean that you can ignore things that need to be done because you have done them before. The task of a successful relationship never ends because the point of a relationship is to build toward the future, not the past." —DR. DAVID NIVEN,

100 Simple Steps to Great Relationships

- Some Relationships are for a REASON
- Some Relationships are for a SEASON
- A Few Relationships are for LIFE

"You cannot neglect your relationships and expect them to grow." —JOHN MAXWELL

[Love] bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. 1 CORINTHIANS 13:7-8

Four Active Ingredients to Keep Your Relationships

1. Bears All Things—to cover with forgiveness

"People with long-term relationships have a distinct habit. When asked about their partners, they don't bring up a long list of complaints. It's not that their partners are perfect, but their tendency isn't to dwell on faults. In fact, people in long-term relationships not only spend much more time thinking about the good traits of their partner but also tend to see redeeming features even in their faults. These people see the complex reality that is another person's and recognize that within everyone are both admirable and regrettable qualities, but that within most us the admirable qualities predominate.

—DR. DAVID NIVEN

100 Simple Steps to Great Relationships

2. Believes All Things—to invest time and energy

3. Hopes All Things—to offer encouragement

"Encouragement is the greatest value you can add to another life."

"Satisfaction in a relationship is eight times more reliant on recent feelings and the ability to perceive improvements than it is based on the history of the relationship."

—KARNEY & FRYE, 2002

4. Endures All Things—to continue with reliability

Every long-term relationship requires the following:

Wade through a few things that are difficult.

Work for many things that are needed.

Wait on some things that take time.

Watch out for those things that can be harmful.

Wave good-bye to personal things that are selfish.

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