



POWER COUPLES



AQUILA AND PRISCILLA

- Acts 18:1-3 – They acted as a single unit, staying together for safety, hospitality, and work.
- Acts 18:18 – They did not find better things to do when they had an opportunity to go on an adventure for Christ.
- Acts 18:24ff – They taught together.
- Romans 16:3, 1 Corinthians 16:19

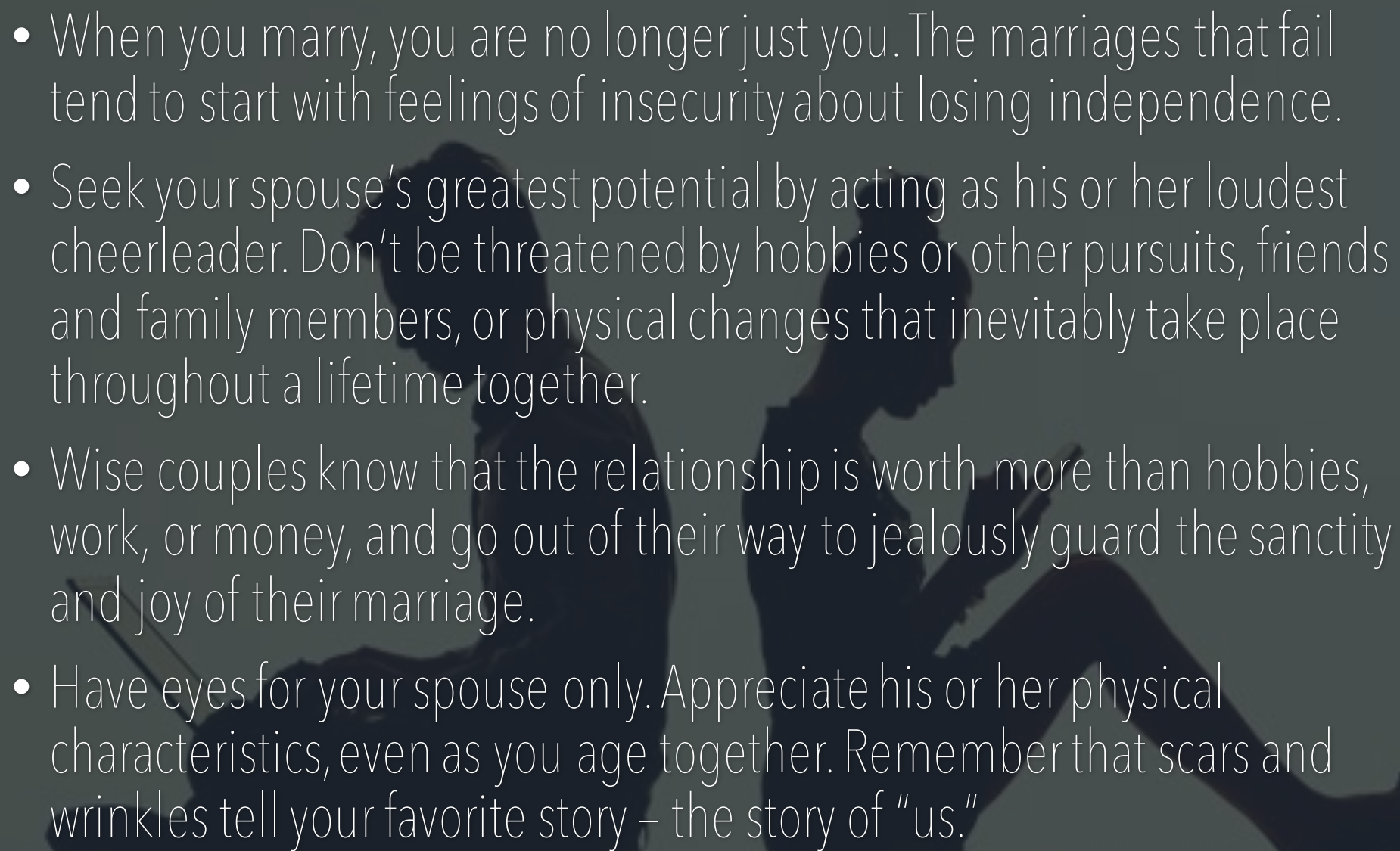
KEEP GOD IN THE CENTER

- The original married couple knew God intimately and were aware of His presence in their lives (Gen. 2-3). He bound them together, after all. It is much harder to maintain this awareness in the presence of so many hundreds of other relationships that we must maintain.
- Matthew 6:25-34 – We generally think of this passage in personal terms, but don't many of the concerns mentioned sound like typical conversations in a marriage? We must seek Him first, and all these other things will be resolved in some way.
- Is God a part of everything? Go beyond prayers at the dinner table and show your kids how much you love your Savior and His people! Make Him a priority, no matter the cost.

ARE YOU STILL TWO?



Matthew 19:4-6, Ephesians 5:28-33, Proverbs 5:15-23,
Song of Solomon 2:16, 5:10, 16-17, 6:3, 7:10

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- A silhouette of a man and a woman sitting together on a ledge, looking at a smartphone. The man is on the left, leaning towards the woman on the right. The background is a light green gradient.
- When you marry, you are no longer just you. The marriages that fail tend to start with feelings of insecurity about losing independence.
 - Seek your spouse's greatest potential by acting as his or her loudest cheerleader. Don't be threatened by hobbies or other pursuits, friends and family members, or physical changes that inevitably take place throughout a lifetime together.
 - Wise couples know that the relationship is worth more than hobbies, work, or money, and go out of their way to jealously guard the sanctity and joy of their marriage.
 - Have eyes for your spouse only. Appreciate his or her physical characteristics, even as you age together. Remember that scars and wrinkles tell your favorite story – the story of "us."

I LOVE "US"

PUTTING A PREMIUM ON HONESTY

- Ephesians 4:25 – Your closest neighbor is your spouse, so there is no place for dishonesty in your marriage (Proverbs 31:11).
- We must be careful to give our spouse the benefit of the doubt (Matt. 1:18-20), but it is each person's responsibility to never give a reason to wonder. This would include acting defensive about the internet or our devices, maintaining close friendships with those of the opposite sex, keeping strange hours, needing to keep financial secrets, or always pushing sexual boundaries.
- Be who you are everywhere – BE GENUINE. There should be no masks for work, church, and home (James 3:13-18). Honesty breeds intimacy, as Proverbs 24:26 says, "An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips."

SERVE WHERE YOU CAN

- While it is good to compare your marriage to others in order to make improvements ("what are they doing right that we are not?"), be careful that you are not allowing jealousy to creep in. A true "power couple" in God's eyes is simply doing what they are called to do with the gifts and opportunities afforded by God (in all humility, too). Not everybody is Aquila and Priscilla!
- Serve in a way that is fitting for you, taking into account your talents and financial ability. Read Romans 12:3-16 as a couple and ask what the two of you can be doing better. Make your work for God a team effort (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12).
- Live in such a way that it sneaks up on you when younger couples tell you how much they look up to you!