

EPISODE: 234 TITLE: 7 Secrets to Lifelong Marriage Unity

All marriages are unique but require many of the same elements to continue growing and sustain unity, romance and a sense of hope for the future.

Here are three things to believe and consider about developing and maintaining marriage unity:

- Don't expect that you somehow, intrinsically, know how to have a great marriage and close unity as a couple. Almost no one was raised in a perfect home with perfect parents who experienced and modeled a perfect marriage. Marriage takes work-for everyone-and it is worth the effort!
- 2. Marriage is a huge picture of the gospel and the foundation for our families and society. What your kids and others outside your nuclear family see and experience, lays a foundation for how they perceive God and life in his kingdom. How we respond under pressure, or when we make mistakes; what we do when we are not on the same page; how we seek and grant forgiveness are all opportunities to grow and model life and marriage in light of the gospel.
- 3. Don't hide your marriage imperfections. Find a community of trusted believers that are "on your team" and mature enough to speak the truth in love to you when needed. Trying to maintain a "false front" of perfection will actually lead to disunity in your marriage and set others up for challenges and false expectations in their own marriages. Seek wise counseling when you are stuck or at an impasse. Don't assume if you sweep issues and patterns under the rug long enough they'll go away. Bring them into the light!

In light of this topic, you may also find this helpful: <u>5 Steps To An Awesome Date Night With Your Spouse</u>

Thanks for listening... we'll see you in the next episode! *Caesar & Heath*