

The #1 Sign Your Marriage is Failing

(Why character always trumps compatibility overtime)
(SERIES: Accept No Mediocre Marriage; 01 of 10)
by Dr. David Foster

”Do two walk together unless **they have agreed** to do so?” (Amos 3:3)

4 Skill Levels of Marriage

Skill level 101: **Getting Married**

Skill level 201: **Being Married**

Skill level 301: **Staying Married**

Skill level 401: **Growing Great Through Marriage**

The Nature of Marriage

Marriage is a **cultural creation**.

Marriage is a **civil contract**.

Marriage is a **spiritual covenant**.

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.” (Gen 2:24 NIV)

Marriage is . . .

. . . A deeply wounded man and a deeply wounded woman **promise** to each other a life-time of loyal love as they pursue, under God, the maximum of their redemptive potential.

The Number #1 Sign Your Marriage is Failing

Loss of **desire**

“Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, [by] serving the Lord.” (Rom 12:11 NIV)

What we can promise

I promise you my **whole heart**.

I promise you my **full attention**.

I promise you my **best emotions**.

“A loving doe, a graceful deer, may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be captivated by her love.” (Pro 5:19 NIV)

I promise you **forever**.

“. . . guard yourself in your spirit, and **do not break faith** with the wife of your youth. I hate divorce,” says the LORD God. . . .” (Mal 2:14-16 NIV)