

Harmony:

Being in agreement or of one accord - of one mind.



Harmony is a difficult word to define. We all know harmony when we hear it musically, but it is hard to put into words or apply to relationships. Think of a symphony orchestra versus a 6th grade band playing the same song. You can hear the difference - the *harmony* of the instruments in the symphony, while the 6th grade band tends to be off key. Like the symphony orchestra, we should be in harmony with our spouse. "Oneness," the Biblical concept of two very different people become one - unified, living in community with a singleness of purpose is a matter of a husband and wife living in harmony. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit exist in *perfect* harmony as does all of God's creation. Mankind tends to bring *disharmony* into God's creation - it began with the "Fall" at the very beginning when Adam and Eve chose their own way rather than God's way.

God's plan for marriage is harmony, a couple being of one mind, loving God and each other as the Lord defines love: giving up of ourselves as Jesus Christ gave Himself for us. (1John 3:16) Is it difficult? No, it's impossible! Without the power of the Holy Spirit, we cannot hope to have harmony in our marriage. But as we die to self, walk in the Spirit, and live out who we are in Christ, we can bring harmony to our marriage, and our home. Too often there is disharmony; like that 6th grade band, husbands and wives are not in tune with each other or working together. Disharmony is natural; without training, growth, maturity, and work, we will not develop the harmony we see with a symphony orchestra.

1 Peter 3:8 says, "Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another (be of the same mind); be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble." The Lord calls you to live in harmony with your spouse; to be considerate and understanding, loving, kind, and caring towards them. You are to be humble, helping your spouse when they are out of tune - not hitting the right notes by how they act, rather than criticizing and demeaning them. Folks you see it the world around us today - the bickering and arguing - focusing on the differences, rather than working together to achieve the harmony God wants us to have. That harmony will help us be a testimony of God's great love through our lives and marriage.

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10 Secrets to Achieving Perfect Harmony In Your Marriage by Lidy Seysener

Growing In Harmony With Your Spouse by Steve Carr

relationshipremedy.com/2012/04/18/10-secrets-to-achieving-perfect-harmony-in-your-marriage

www.covenantkeepers.org/online-articles/42-conflict-resolution/315-growing-in-harmony-with-your-spouse