

Priscilla and Aquila
Marriage principles
(Acts 18; 1 Cor. 16:19; Romans 16:3; 2 Tim. 4:19)

1. They were a couple who truly shared the grace of life together.

See 1 Peter 3:7

Note the areas of commonality in the lives of this couple:

Occupation—tentmakers

Heritage/background--Jews

This is not to say that a common background is essential for marital success, only that it provides additional “glue.”

Challenges—persecution before Rome, in Rome, and after Rome

Passion/goals—teaching of Apollos, church in their house, ministry mindset

Shared experiences provide immediate connectedness.

From a negative perspective, we need to guard the sharing of experiences with members of the opposite gender in the both the real and virtual worlds.

2. They are defined in terms of each other—in terms of the relationship they have.

In each instance they are mentioned as a team. One would be hard-pressed to define the other outside of their spousal relationship.

Married partners should seek to identify themselves with each other.

In the absence of your spouse, endeavor to make him/her the unseen presence.

3. Neither one of them is materialistic.

Money and materialism—or greed and covetousness—are poison in any marriage.

87% of marriage difficulty has something to do with finances.

What does materialism create?

Pressure, indulgence, etc. See 1 Timothy 6—it is generally a lack of contentment with one's station or one's stuff.

4. They each walked with the Lord.

The key to a Christ-centered marriage is individual submission to God's Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18).

Neither one of them carried the spiritual load of the relationship.

Each knew and understood the Scriptures.

"Your alone time is the key to your together time."

5. They were faithful to the house of God.

Corinth—church

Ephesus—synagogue, church (1 Cor. 16:19)

Rome—church

Proactive counseling, ministry mindedness, fellowship, provoking to love and good works

6. They served God together.

Missions trips

Discipleship opportunities

Hospitality—in their home