Growing Together: 7 Keys to a Fruitful Marriage - Notes

"They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream… It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit." Jeremiah 17:8

Introduction: Marriage is a Garden

1. Preparing & Planning — Be Intentional About Growth

Main Point: Marriages grow stronger with direction, not just desire.
Healthy relationships are built with purpose, not passivity.

Scripture: Proverbs 24:3–4 "By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established…"

💬 **Talk It Through:** What kind of marriage do we want to build — and are we growing toward it?

✅ **Action Step:** Plan a regular check-in to talk about your relationship and where you're going.

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2. Planting — Sow What You Want to Grow

Main Point: What you invest now will shape what grows later.
Every word, choice, and act of love is a seed with future impact.

Scripture: Galatians 6:7 "A man reaps what he sows."

💬 **Talk It Through:** What are we planting in our marriage today — and what do we want to see grow?

✅ **Action Step:** Identify one new thing to start doing that sows love or peace into your marriage.

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3. Provision — Feed and Water the Relationship Daily

Main Point: Love needs daily care to stay alive.
Marriage thrives with encouragement, attention, and time.

Scripture: Ephesians 5:29 "They feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church."

💬 **Talk It Through:** What helps us feel cared for — and are we doing that for each other?

✅ **Action Step:** Choose one small thing each day to show care — a kind word, a loving gesture, or shared time.

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4. Repeating — Strengthen What's Working

Main Point: Keep doing the things that give life.
Consistent habits build connection — not just grand moments.

Scripture: Philippians 4:9 "Whatever you have learned… put it into practice."

💬 **Talk It Through:** What rhythms are helping our relationship flourish?

✅ **Action Step:** Reinforce one healthy habit that brings joy, peace, or intimacy in your marriage.

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5. Pruning — Remove What Drains Life

Main Point: Some things must be cut back to make room for growth.
Even fruitful relationships need intentional pruning.

Scripture: John 15:2 "Every branch that bears fruit He prunes so it will be even more fruitful."

💬 **Talk It Through:** What needs to be pruned so we can grow stronger together?

✅ **Action Step:** Choose one thing to reduce or remove — distractions, criticism, grudges, or bad habits.

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6. Protecting — Guard What You've Grown

Main Point: Even healthy marriages can be harmed by neglect or pressure.
Small intrusions can do lasting damage.

Scripture: Song of Songs 2:15 "Catch for us the little foxes… that ruin the vineyards."

💬 **Talk It Through:** What's threatening our connection — and how can we guard against it?

✅ **Action Step:** Set a boundary that protects your time, trust, or unity.

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7. Patience — Trust the Process of Growth

Main Point: Not all growth is fast or visible — but every step matters.
Stay faithful through every season.

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3:1 "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."

💬 **Talk It Through:** What season are we in — and how can we stay faithful through it?

✅ **Action Step:** Don't give up during slow seasons — commit to consistency and grace.

Final Reflection: Marriage is like a garden. Some days bring fruit. Others bring weeds. But every stage — preparing, planting, pruning, protecting, and waiting — is part of the process. The goal isn't perfection. It's faithfulness.

Final Question: What kind of legacy are we planting — and what will our love story grow into?