

What should a Christian couple do when there are problems?

Since marriage is an intimate relationship between two devout sinners, it is inevitable that Christians will have problems during this life.

1. What should be their first pass at finding a solution to their problem?

Romans **12:10**

Ephesians **4:24-25**

James **1:19-20**

Ephesians **4:1-3**

Joshua **9:14-15**

Ephesians **4:15**

When a problem first surfaces, it is important to seek to solve the problem as quickly as you can. The couple should come together with a heart and mind ready to listen to each other and, more importantly, ready to listen to God. It is most important to seek the counsel of the Lord, whether the conversation is just with they couple or whether another external counselor is brought in to assist in solving the problem. As you speak to one another to solve the problem, speak the truth. If you have been hurt by your partner then be willing to tell them specifics about how he/she has hurt you.

2. What should be the subsequent steps to be followed?

Proverbs **2:2, 6**

Proverbs **4:5-8**

Proverbs **15:22**

Proverbs **19:21**

Joshua **5:13-14**

Proverbs **3:13-18**

Proverbs **11:14**

Proverbs **21:30-31**

Galatians **6:1-2**

If the couple finds it difficult to come to a solution to the problem, they should seek counsel from the people of God. Sometimes we can be too close to a problem and only see what we want out of the problem rather than see what God wants out of the problem. Seeking counsel is never a sign of failure, instead it is a sign of success seeing you desire to maintain the relationship first and ensure that God's word is foundational to the solution. As you seek counsel, seek counselors that will not take any side but the Lord's side. It is the Lord's solution that you ought to seek after.

3. What things should be avoided?

1 Corinthians **6:7-8**

Colossians **3:8-10**

Ephesians **4:26-27**

James **1:21**

Some of the things that ought to be avoided is pursuing one another in court. In a marriage relationship, that generally means divorce. Seek counsel early before the problem becomes too big to handle. As much as is possible, it is important to avoid anger and especially avoid having the sun set upon your anger. While there are some things worthy of being angry about, the problems of most couples do not center around the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. Since the solution to any problem ought to be a solution that draws the couple together, the discussion needs to be void of any anger, ill-will, or manipulation. Be reconciled to God and follow after His commands.

4. What are some helpful principles?

Mark **9:50**
1 Corinthians **2:11**
Ephesians **5:33**

Matthew **19:5-6**
1 Peter **3:7-8**

It is important to seek after having and maintaining peace one with another. One of the most important truths is that as a married couple, you are no longer two individuals but one organism. This leads to the principle that if one of you is having a problem then both of you are having a problem. The only person who knows what is going on in a person is the person him/herself. Remember that your spouse cannot read your mind any more than you can read his/hers. Ensure that love and respect remain as the anchor of the problem. Love one another (even if you feel wronged) and respect one another (even if the actions and words do not warrant respect).