

What Stage is My Marriage?

Relationships R Us, Part 6

Pastor Ken Ritz * June 23, 2019 * New Life Vineyard Church

FIVE STAGES OF MARRIAGE

1. Stage One: The Happy _____
(years _____ - _____)

*Like a lily among thorns is my darling among the young women.
Like an apple tree among the trees of the forest is my beloved
among the young men. I delight to sit in his shade, and his fruit is
sweet to my taste. Let him lead me to the banquet hall, and let his
banner over me be love. Strengthen me with raisins, refresh me
with apples, for I am faint with love...Look! Here he comes,
leaping across the mountains, bounding over the hills.*

Song of Songs 2:2-8

Four Words That Describe Stage One

1. **Intensity**
2. **Idealism**

*How beautiful you are, my darling! Oh, how beautiful! Your eyes
behind your veil are doves. Your hair is like a flock of goats...
Your teeth are like a flock of sheep...Your lips are like a scarlet
ribbon; your mouth is lovely. Your temples behind your veil are
like the halves of a pomegranate. Your neck is like the tower of
David, built with courses of stone... You are altogether beautiful,
my darling; there is no flaw in you.* Song of Songs 4:1-7

3. **Indulgence**
4. **Ignorance**

2. Stage Two: What Was I _____
(years _____ - _____)

3. Stage Three: Everything Would Be Great If
_____ (years _____ - _____)

*A quarrelsome wife is as annoying as constant dripping on a rainy
day. Stopping her complaints is like trying to stop the wind or
trying to hold something with greased hands.*

Proverbs 27:15-16 NLT

Four Words That Describe Stage Three

1. **Dullness**
2. **Defensiveness**
3. **Disapproval**
4. **Disappointment**

4. Stage 4: That's Just the Way _____ Partner is
(years _____ - _____)

5. Stage 5: _____, at last (years _____ - _____)

*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is
not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is
not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not
delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always
trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.* 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

HOW TO SURVIVE STAGE THREE

1. _____ to each other

*Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other
so that you may be healed.* James 5:16

2. _____ wrong ways of reacting

3. _____ to maturity

**All scriptures from NIV unless otherwise noted*