



# Marriage Rules<sup>©</sup>

## “YOU GET WHAT YOU GIVE”

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“You don’t bring me flowers...you don’t sing me love songs”.

Poignant words to an old song about the ties that un-bind.

Marriage is work!

Each moment, every moment, each day, every day!

There are no free rides in life.

And marriage is a most demanding ride!

Imagine, if you will, a fertile plot of earth.

In the beginning, two people - who have freely joined together - agree to plant the most beautiful and bountiful garden ever.

They know that their success or failure rests largely with what they commit to faithfully do or not do.

Actions speak loudly.

Words are important, too.

The soil is rich with promise; the time to seed the ground is now!

They bump and grind and sweat and sigh and sweat some more and laugh and cry.

After all, planting a garden is demanding work and the couple is pregnant with great expectation.

Watering and weeding and spraying their crops, tending their garden well, little sprouts begin to grow as if by magic.

Soon a grand and lovely harvest results to feed the body and soul of its attentive farmers.

Continued...

Then, the cycle repeats again, so long as the ‘seal’ of good farming is unbroken.

Like the productive garden, marriage typically begins with high hopes and tremendous excitement.

The “soil” of the relationship seems rich and impossible to corrupt.

In the early stages, the work of planting a “marriage garden” is often mistaken for play.

After a while, a grand and lovely relationship results to feed the body and soul of its attentive spouses.

Then, the cycle repeats again, so long as the ‘seal’ of good marriage is maintained.

“You get what you give”.

If you give, you may not always get.

But you’ll never get, if you don’t give.

“You don’t bring me flowers...you don’t sing me love songs”.

“You get what you give”!

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