

# THE ART OF MARRIAGE

BY WILFERD A. PETERSON

THE LITTLE THINGS ARE THE BIG THINGS.  
IT IS NEVER BEING TOO OLD TO HOLD HANDS.  
IT IS REMEMBERING TO SAY 'I LOVE YOU' AT LEAST ONCE A DAY.

IT IS NEVER GOING TO SLEEP ANGRY.  
IT IS AT NO TIME TAKING THE OTHER FOR GRANTED;  
THE COURTSHIP SHOULD NOT END WITH THE HONEYMOON.  
IT SHOULD CONTINUE THROUGH ALL THE YEARS.

IT IS HAVING A MUTUAL SENSE OF VALUES AND COMMON OBJECTIVES.  
IT IS STANDING TOGETHER FACING THE WORLD.  
IT IS FORMING A CIRCLE OF LOVE THAT GATHERS IN THE WHOLE FAMILY.  
IT IS DOING THINGS FOR EACH OTHER,  
NOT IN THE ATTITUDE OF DUTY OR SACRIFICE,  
BUT IN THE SPIRIT OF JOY.

IT IS SPEAKING WORDS OF APPRECIATION AND DEMONSTRATING  
GRATITUDE IN THOUGHTFUL WAYS.  
IT IS NOT EXPECTING THE HUSBAND TO WEAR A HALO  
OR THE WIFE TO HAVE WINGS OF AN ANGEL.  
IT IS NOT LOOKING FOR PERFECTION IN EACH OTHER.

IT IS CULTIVATING FLEXIBILITY, PATIENCE,  
UNDERSTANDING AND A SENSE OF HUMOR.  
IT IS HAVING THE CAPACITY TO FORGIVE AND FORGET.  
IT IS GIVING EACH OTHER AN ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH EACH CAN GROW.

IT IS FINDING ROOM FOR THE THINGS OF THE SPIRIT.  
IT IS A COMMON SEARCH FOR THE GOOD AND THE BEAUTIFUL.  
IT IS ESTABLISHING A RELATIONSHIP IN WHICH THE INDEPENDENCE IS  
EQUAL,  
DEPENDENCE IS MUTUAL AND THE OBLIGATION IS RECIPROCAL.  
IT IS NOT ONLY MARRYING THE RIGHT PARTNER,  
IT IS BEING THE RIGHT PARTNER.