Introduction: The secret to a lasting relationship

Hollywood's prescription for lasting relationships:

4 steps to follow!

1. _____ the right person.

2. _____ in love.

3. _____ your hopes and dreams on this person for your future fulfillment.

4. If _____ occurs, repeat steps 1, 2, and 3.

The success rate:

The pain, the fall-out, and the damage:

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God's prescription for lasting relationships:

[1]Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; [2]and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you, and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

Ephesians 5:1-2

4 steps to follow!

1. _____ the right person.

2. _____ in love.

3. _____ your hope on God and seek to please Him through this relationship.

4. If _____ occurs, repeat steps 1, 2, and 3.

The success rate:

The reward, the legacy, and the blessing:

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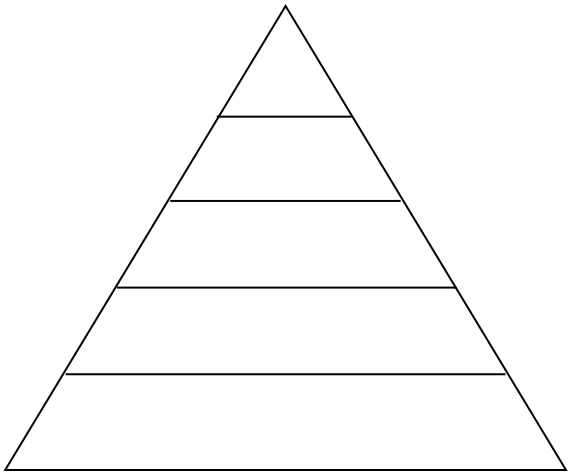
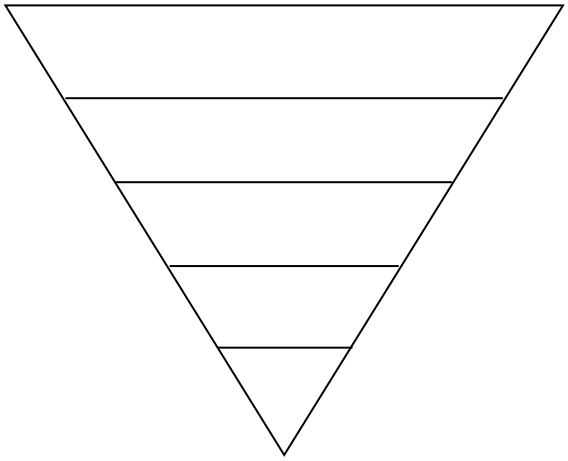
Pictorial Summary: 2 models for lasting relationships

Model #1: God's Prescription



Model #2: Hollywood's Formula



Biblical Summary:

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – His good, pleasing, and perfect will.

Romans 12:2

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Personal evaluation and analysis:

1. Which triangle most represents your approach to building lasting relationships?

2. What would you like your present and/or future relationships to look like; model #1 or model #2?

3. What specific steps do you need to take to begin implementing **God's secret** to lasting relationships?

4. A word to . . .

   . . . uninvolved singles.

   . . . involved singles.

   . . . divorced/widowed.

   . . . married couples.

Reference: Judith Wallerstein & Mavis Hetherington – University of Virginia
U.S. News Weekly

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