



**180** *Power Tips*  
*for Marriage*

DR. KAY KUZMA

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 **Pacific Press**<sup>®</sup>  
Publishing Association

Nampa, Idaho | Oshawa, Ontario, Canada  
[www.pacificpress.com](http://www.pacificpress.com)

## FOREWORD

Original design concept by Chrystique Neibauer | [cqgraphicdesign.com](http://cqgraphicdesign.com)  
Cover by Steve Lanto  
Inside by Kristin Hansen-Mellish

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ISBN 13: 978-0-8163-4437-6

ISBN 10: 0-8163-4437-X

13 14 15 16 17 • 5 4 3 2 1

## **How to Get the Most Out of Your Power Tips**

**M**arriage is a twenty-four-hour-a-day job. Every minute is crammed with things that must be done to maintain a family. But you can give only so much without refilling yourself with thoughts to help you refocus your priorities and reflect on what God may be trying to say to you and your mate through His Word.

That's why I've written this practical daily inspirational guide filled with power tips that can be read in a minute or less. Each practical suggestion is tied to a Bible verse that can change your life and revitalize your marriage, if you will reflect on it and allow God's Spirit to impress you with how you can apply it. God created marriage—and He can re-create yours.

*And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh.*

*Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate"*

*(Matthew 19:4–6, NKJV).*

May this be your experience as you daily apply the wisdom, understanding, and knowledge of God to your family. One minute a day can change your life—if it's a God-inspired minute!

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## What Is True Love?

Love is a many-splendored thing,” is how love is defined in the 1955 Academy Award–winning theme song of the movie by the same name. The words of the song continue, *Love is nature’s way of giving, a reason to be living, the golden crown that makes a man a king.*

Others say, “Love is what makes the world go round.” Or “Love and marriage go together like a horse and carriage.” But we all know that is not necessarily so. Marriage may start out with enough romance for a couple to think they’re in love, but when tough times hit, disappointments loom, and dreams fade, often the love the couple thought they had for each other fades too.

Here’s the best definition of love I’ve ever read: “True love is not physical or romantic. True love is acceptance of all that is, has been, will be, and will not be.”

In other words, regardless of the circumstances, regardless of how bad things get, regardless of how couples might feel at the moment, true love never fails.

May the love you share with each other be *true* love!

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*“Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful and endures through every circumstance.”*

—1 Corinthians 13:4–7, NLT

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# *Complete People Make Whole Marriages*

It sounds like a loving thing to say, “You make me complete.” But watch out! Do the math! One plus one equals two. But does one-half plus one-half equal one? No! It adds up to much less!

As long as both husband and wife feel that together they are complete, it’s likely they’ll enjoy a long and happy marriage. But when one or both begins to need the other to make up for a deficiency, the marriage ceases to equal a whole. Two needy people who marry don’t end up meeting each other’s need to be complete, instead they drain each other!

So if you’re moody, don’t expect your spouse to meet all your emotional needs.

If you’re a “messy,” your spouse shouldn’t have to pick up after you.

Are you habitually late? Don’t blame your spouse for not getting you someplace on time.

Just because you’re forgetful, your spouse shouldn’t have to keep your calendar.

Couples with great marriages constantly work on self-improvement so in love they can offer more to each other, rather than feeling they have to fill in for a needy partner who refuses to help himself or herself.

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*“For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.” —Colossians 2:9, 10, NKJV*

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## Praiseworthy Thinking

If you think something will go wrong, it probably will. If you see your life as half empty, instead of half full, it probably will be. If you feel that you're not worthy of the best, you probably will never get it! But you don't have to be a victim of your defective thinking.

You can turn the terrible into the terrific by claiming God's promises. You can be everything God designed you to be, if you only believe He is constantly working out His will in your life. You can be a positive thinker if you just dwell on the good things in life rather than the bad. Count your blessings instead of your failures and disappointments—and you'll find yourself enjoying a better marriage.

Satan has made sure that if you're not careful, you'll default to negative thinking. But you don't have to let the devil control you. Just follow the positive formula in Philippians 4:8 to think on things that are praiseworthy. Sure it's tough. But just like pure gold comes out of the fire that burns away impurities, good thinking comes out of the tough work of choosing to be positive regardless of the circumstances.

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*“Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.” —Philippians 4:8, NKJV*

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