DEPOSIT BEFORE WITHDRAWAL

Why do so many people have successful dating relationships and unsuccessful marriages?

1) The realization of many of the faults of the other person are more apparent after some time has gone by; Infatuation fades.
2) Tendency is to take each other for granted after marriage
3) The assurance of "wedlock" has a tendency to lead some to not try to please the spouse as when the relationship was uncertain in the days of courtship
4) When courting a girl, you don't want to mess up; you try hard to please; you work out difficulties & conflicts; You are more conscientious about the "little things" that build relationships

*5) Basically, to summarize: You worked at the relationship then; You perhaps prayed more; worked more; wrote more; talked more; gave more; forgave more; spent more time with each other; spent more money on each other etc… YOU DEPOSITED MORE! And as a result you REAPED MORE of the benefits of your relationship.

Illustration: Going to the Bank and not being able to withdraw money because of a lack in your account.

* You Must Deposit into your marriage before you can Withdraw blessings from your marriage

Principle: Sowing & Reaping

Galatians 6:7

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

The neighbors' lawn (greener than mine because he works on his)

Let's deposit in our marriage:

Words of Kindness (please, thank you, etc)
Forgiveness (Will you forgive me; I forgive you)
Tokens of Affection (lots of kisses & hugs; flowers & notes)
Expressions of grace (gifts)
Time
Prayer