# Shanel and Leonard Muhammad

## How you met.

We met at work. Fate landed us in the same 3 week training class. We bumped heads when we first met and the chemistry came later. Before we knew it, we were swept up in a whirlwind that lead us down a long circuitous path to our wedding.

# Favorite thing about your partner?

My favorite thing about Leonard is how smart he is! I'm always learning something new from him. I love how well he takes care of my heart. He protects me at all costs and will do almost anything to make me happy.

My favorite things about Shanel are her smile and thoughtfulness. She is always looking for ways to make me happy by paying attention to any want or need that I express or she observes.

# What has contributed to your success as a couple?

One of the keys to the success of our relationship is open, sometimes brutally honest, communication. Whenever one of us detects even a hint of discord, we make time to talk. We speak our minds honestly and we pay careful attention to each other. We listen, we learn and we act on what we learn to be the best partner we can be.

#### Any advice you would give

- a) Singles that are dating
- b) Couple in a relationship

The best advice we can give to new couple or people who are dating is just be yourself, your true self. We tend to date backwards. We hide our faults and quirks and only share the best of ourselves. Then as intimacy grows our partner gets to see who we really are. It saves feelings and time if we are candid and transparent from the beginning.



# **Christopher & Paris Taylor**

#### How you met:

We met on a dating site

## Favorite thing about your partner?

**Chris's answer:** The way I'm so caring and loving, One of the things she loves about me is being able to express affection and support.

He really admires my kindness and generosity.

**Paris's answer:** I love how he treats me exactly like I treat him, I never had that, I adore the spontaneity my partner brings into our lives. His ability to embrace the unexpected adds an exciting and joyful element to our relationship. and just how he loves me without expectations.

#### What has contributed to your success as a couple?

Because we were so open and honest with each other, And we said in the beginning it's all about us not about our children or friends or family, We are actually friends. Communication, trust, mutual respect, and understanding are essential contributors to our success in our relationship. We have shared values, emotional support, and the ability to compromise has been helpful and play major roles in maintaining a healthy and lasting relationship.

# Any advice you would give a) Singles that are dating

#### b) Couple in a relationship

A) The advice for Singles that are dating: Learn to be okay with dating yourself before dating someone else, Be authentic, Be true to yourself if you don't like a drinker or smoker don't settle because the are attractive or they are financially successful, Be patient and don't settle for a relationship the don't align with your value or goals, Don't force the relationship allow it to develop naturally, Share your thoughts and feelings and allow them to do it as well. Focus on compatibility, Seek shared interests and long term goals this will ensure a solid foundation of the relationship.

uals and as a couple.



B) The advice for couples in a relationship: DON'T LOSE YOURSELF JUST BECAUSE YOU ARE IN A RELATIONSHIP.

Communication is key; openly express your feelings, listen actively, and resolve conflicts constructively. Cultivate trust, support each other's goals, and make time for shared activities. Remember, a healthy relationship requires effort from both partners.

Create a foundation of trust through honesty and vulnerability. Appreciate each other's strengths, and be patient with differences. Keep the romance alive by regularly expressing love and affection. Prioritize quality time together and cherish the little moments. Lastly, embrace growth and adaptability as individ