



Till Death Do Us Part

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But from the beginning of creation, “God made them male and female.” Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and “the two shall become one flesh.” So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together let not man separate.
– Mark 10:6-9 (ESV)

The Journey Toward Relational Depth

1. KEEP STEPPING TOWARD GODLINESS

Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. – Philippians 2:4,5 (NLT)

2. KEEP STEPPING TOWARD SERVICE

You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. ²⁶But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, ²⁷and whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave. ²⁸For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many. – Matthew 20:25-28 (NLT)

3. KEEP STEPPING TOWARD HONOR

Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. – Romans 12:10 (NLT)

4. KEEP STEPPING TOWARD ENJOYMENT

The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life. – John 10:10 (NLT)

My Next Step

- I will memorize [Romans 12:10](#)
- I will reaffirm in my life choices the value of a Biblical view of marriage
- I will embrace the journey of true intimacy by being like Christ in honoring, serving, & enjoying my spouse
- I will point other couples to the values I discovered in our Marriage Matters series.

WALK THE TALK

A Growth Group Guide

1. *When you look back to your grandparents' marriage, or even other older couples that you have gotten the chance to watch over the years, what have you admired about their marriage?*
2. *READ - 1 Peter 3:1-9 to the group.*
 - a. *What do you think it means for a wife to submit to her husband? After you have answered this question among yourselves, go back and read silently 1 Peter 2:18-25. Does that change anything in your first answer? Why? If not, how does your answer align with the example of Jesus?*
 - b. *How can God use the spouse of an unbeliever to win him/her over to Christ? Why do certain attitudes make a person more beautiful than outward enhancements?*
 - c. *In what ways can a Christian husband be "considerate" of his wife, based on verse 7? The Message says this: The same goes for you husbands: Be good husbands to your wives. Honor them, delight in them. As women they lack some of your advantages. But in the new life of God's grace, you're equals. Treat your wives, then, as equals so your prayers don't run aground. How does this help you grasp the way Peter is "turning a phrase" between "treat them ...as the weaker partner" and "as heirs with you"?*
 - d. *Together, walk through the eight character traits of building strong relationships, mentioned in verses 9-10 (six positive and two negative). What is your game plan to put these blessings into practice this week?*