



*A Survival Guide to  
Dating Your Spouse*





Acknowledgements

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# *Introduction*

## WHERE HAS THE ROMANCE GONE?

If you've asked yourself that question before, trust us, you're not alone. There's a psychological light switch that changes our mentality about wooing our spouse the second we say "I Do." Why do we stop trying? Our relationship with each other is the reason we married in the first place.

Marriages have to be nurtured. Have you ever heard the excuse, "We just grew apart," from one of your divorced friends? If they'd been dating and putting in quality time with each other to nurture their relationship, chances are they wouldn't be divorced.

Marriage is to be celebrated, not put on a shelf to gather dust as the years pass. One of the biggest mistakes we made in our marriage early on was not taking the time to celebrate our union. We didn't even take time to honeymoon! We just went back to work and the daily grind. Neither of us had felt like we'd done anything special, and what a disservice that was to God and the Holy Covenant we'd made with Him.



Dating is more important during your marriage than it ever was before you got married. Carving out a special time to spend with your spouse tells them you still love them and that you want to be with them.

### *But I Don't Have Time!*

Yes, you do! We promise. If we can do it with five kids and our work schedules, you can do it too. We'll give tips for carving out time in the upcoming pages.

### *But I Don't Have Money!*

It's okay! You don't need money to connect with your spouse. We're going to give you ideas for all different kinds of dates.

### *What Will We Talk About?*

Grass is greener where it's watered. What did you talk about before you got married? What made you get that dreamy look in your eyes and stay up until all hours of the night talking? Great communication is key. You might be rusty, but it'll come back like riding a bike.



# *Time and Dating Your Spouse*

"I don't have time."

We've been guilty of uttering those words a time or two. I bet you have too. But the truth is, it's not time that's our worst enemy, it's priorities. One of the most important things God did in Genesis was to create Eve, because he didn't want man to be alone.

*"It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."*  
(Genesis 2:18)

Marriage was designed to mirror what our relationship with Christ is suppose to be like. So after our relationship with Christ, marriage is our next priority. Yes! Even before our children. The greatest gift you can give your children is parents that have a healthy marriage. This also means your marriage should come before work, bills, friends, school, and Facebook.

There are nights where we'll put the kids to bed, hop in the Jeep, and go get ice cream just so we can spend twenty minutes alone together. If you look for the time, you'll find the time.

# *Tips For Making Time*

- Make your marriage a priority
- Get in sync! Coordinate your calendars
- Schedule at least 30 minutes of alone time (No Kids!) where the two of you can check in with each other and see if there are any issues.
- If your kids are little and you have trouble finding babysitters, schedule one date night per month. Trade babysitting time with other couples in lieu of spending money.
- Make it a goal for date night to become a weekly occurrence. Chances are, when you start to prioritize, you'll be able to find an hour or two for your spouse.  
(Remember, your marriage should come before your kids)



# Money and Dating Your Spouse

Is there anything less romantic than a conversation about money? The fact is, money is one of the leading causes of divorce. Date nights to reconnect with your spouse shouldn't be about money, especially if this is a hot button topic for you.

## *Free Date Night Ideas*

- An Indoor Picnic – spread a blanket in front of the fireplace (even in summer!), open a bottle of wine, and have a light meal and great conversation. Steal a few kisses along the way.
- Movie Night – Curl up on the couch and snuggle while watching a movie. Popcorn is optional.
- Stargazing – lay a blanket on the ground and look up at the stars. It's a great time to talk about your dreams for the future.
- Take a scenic bike ride. Extra points if you pack a picnic to take with you.
- Have a pool? Go skinny dipping!



- Video Game Night - There's nothing like a competitive game of Mario Kart to get the blood pumping.
- Go window shopping. It's fun to dream big together.
- Take a luxury sports car out for a test drive. Have fun!
- The library - If you love to read as much as I do, this is an awesome date. Read together and hold hands.
- Heat things up in the kitchen. Make a romantic dinner for two together.
- During the holidays, ride around and look at Christmas lights.
- Have a backyard campout. Make a fire and cook S'mores. Pitch a tent, and share a sleeping bag.
- Find a scenic place and watch the sunset together.





# *Date Nights That Cost*



- Painting with a Twist (As you can see, we love it)
  - Dress up in your finest and eat at a fancy restaurant
  - Go to a soda shop and share a milkshake with two straws.
  - Go ice skating
  - Charter a boat for a romantic sunset sail
  - Go to a drive-in movie. Sneak kisses when it gets dark.
  - Play golf, even if you're bad. Sometimes being bad makes it more fun.
  - Recreate your very first date
  - Meet at a coffee shop separately and pretend you're meeting for the very first time
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- Go to a wine and cheese tasting
  - Make a date at the shooting range and have a target competition
  - Go to an arcade and be kids again
  - Find a traveling carnival and kiss at the top of the Ferris Wheel
  - Rent a hotel room and order room service. Wake up to watch the sunrise together.
  - Have a couple's spa day and relax



# Communication and Reconnection

Remember when you hung onto your spouse's every word? When you'd talk for hours on the phone, or drift off to sleep just as the sun was starting to rise because of great conversation? That connection is still there, but sometimes it's hard to recognize when you have children, or stresses like bills and work.

Maybe it's been so long since you've been on a date together that you feel like two strangers with nothing in common. Here are a few conversation starters to help you break the ice.



1. If you could give your younger self one piece of advice, what would it be?
2. What's the most adventurous thing you've ever done?
3. If money was no option, what's one vacation destination you'd like to go to?
4. What's your favorite memory of our wedding day?



5. How can I pray for you?
6. If you could choose any career, what would it be?
7. How often would you like to have sex?
8. Is there anything you've always wanted to do during sex?
9. What's your best memory with one of your parents?
10. Do I have any of the same qualities as your mother/father?
11. What kind of legacy would you like to leave for our children?
12. What's a song that describes our marriage?
13. What's your most embarrassing moment?
14. What's your favorite movie of all time?
15. Do you have a bucket list? What are some things on it?

# Conclusion

The truth is, marriage takes time and effort. If you struggle with connecting with your spouse, we've been where you are, and we understand that sometimes things seem hopeless.

Making your marriage a priority is the most important thing you can do after having a relationship with Christ. We want to encourage you, that no matter what season of marriage you're in, that you can have a blessed, happy, and whole life with your spouse.

Dating your spouse again will re-open the doors of communication, and set you on the path toward success in your marriage. If you have specific problems or questions in regards to your marriage, please don't hesitate to reach out. We'd love to pray for you.





Please stay in touch. You can email us at [contact@bluemarriage.com](mailto:contact@bluemarriage.com), or connect with us on social media.

