

TALK IT OVER

More Than I Do

BOTTOM LINE

Love isn't about the moment you say "I do" – it's about the daily pursuit.

CONVERSATION STARTER

Who is a great personal role model for marriage to you? Are there any famous couples you admire? Why?

THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

RESOURCES

- The Daily: newpointe.org/thedaily
- [2 Surprising Changes That Will Prepare You for an Enduring Marriage](#)

KEY VERSES AND QUOTES

So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. ... be filled with the Holy Spirit. John 13:34; Ephesians 5:18 NLT

"Here's what it takes to be fully emotionally healthy and equipped to engage in a long-term relationship: Grow up in a home where you get respect. Massive doses of respect, encouragement, comfort, security, approval, affection, support, acceptance. But most of us didn't get it and we enter relationships with a deficit." – Pete Scazzero

"The foundation for staying in love is to make love a verb – PURSUIT." – Dwight Mason

"Staying in love requires mutual submission – it is powerful, scary, and rare. Someone has to go first. Someone has to say, 'YOU are the priority in this relationship.' When you watch it, when you practice it every single day, you find life and love changes." – Dwight Mason

TALK IT OVER

In your circle of friends, what percentage would you say are experiencing deeply satisfying marriages? Staying in love and having a fulfilling marriage is made more difficult because of **unhealthy role models**. Discuss your personal experience. **Our home experiences** often do not equip us to be emotionally healthy. We require massive doses of respect. What does that look like for a child at home? **The culturally low threshold for pain** tells us to get out when it is uncomfortable. How have you experienced/where do you see that reality? How can we help prepare our children to work through and endure hard times? What part does "honest storytelling" play? Jesus says that love is not something you "fall into." It is something you pursue. It is making love a verb. What does that look like in a marriage? How does "feeling is the caboose of the train" play out when you pursue love? What makes the idea of mutual submission so offensive? What does submission look like in a marriage? What if it's not mutual? Do you know a couple who practiced/practices this well? Talk about it. The Holy Spirit is required to do this authentically. How are you doing in your relationships? When we get it right, **God is made visible to the world. Children benefit. Our lives are enriched.** Where do you see the most need for you to get it right?

ACTION STEP

I will walk in the Spirit of God, pursuing love and submission. This will be my daily priority and prayer: _____