

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT GROUP

Lesson 9 - Knowing and Being Known

“The purposes of a person’s heart are deep waters, but one who has insight draws them out.” **Proverbs 20:5**

Main Idea: Everyone desires to be known and to be loved. If you are not known by your spouse, it is hard to believe their love for you. Knowing and being known doesn’t just happen. As a relationship matures, familiarity can breed complacency. To fight against this, we must be intentional in the pursuit of our spouse. It takes God-given courage to be vulnerable in order to grow together relationally, spiritually and sexually with your spouse.

“To be loved but not known is comforting but superficial. To be known and not loved is our greatest fear. But to be fully known and truly loved is, well, a lot like being loved by God. It is what we need more than anything. It liberates us from pretense, humbles us out of our self-righteousness, and fortifies us for any difficulty life can throw at us” – Tim Keller, *The Meaning of Marriage*

1. How did you discover your spouse’s like and dislikes when you were dating?
2. What are some of the obstacles that keep you from seeking to know your spouse today?
3. What are some of the obstacles that keep you from allowing your spouse to know you?
4. How have you let familiarity breed complacency in your marriage?
5. What’s one positive thing have you learned about your spouse recently?

THROUGH THE WEEK

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Read the Scripture below for each day and answer the following questions. Every passage may not clearly give an answer to each question but think through these questions and see how God leads you. You may want to use a journal for this daily time in God's word.

1. What do I learn about God?
2. What do I learn about myself?
3. What do I learn about loving my spouse/others?

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Psalm 139	Psalm 23	Psalm 19	Psalm 103:1-14	Psalm 46

Challenge for the Week:



Ask your spouse which area is the most difficult for the two of you to experience closeness: relational, spiritual, or sexual? Without arguing or commenting on their response, ask them what they feel might be a hurdle in that area of closeness.

Additional Resources:



Article – <https://www.reengage.org/blog/how-to-be-real-with-your-spouse>

Book – The Gift of Being Yourself by David Benner

Book – The Meaning of Marriage: A Couple's Devotional by Tim & Kathy Keller