



Dates to Soul Mates, Pt. 6: How to Stay In Love

Falling in love is easy; staying in love is hard. What do you do when the intense emotions of the honeymoon are over? How do you navigate through the different seasons of challenge every marriage encounters? What do you do when you've "lost that loving feeling?"

Bottom Line: Love is not self-sustaining; it must be fed and constantly renewed.

Discussion Questions:

1. How would you define the purpose of marriage? What are some of the influences and experiences that shaped your definition?
2. How would you respond if someone asked, "How do you stay in love?"
3. **Read Matthew 5:7.** On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being "I can overlook it almost immediately" and 10 being "it takes a lot of time and effort for me to overlook it," how difficult is it for you to overlook an annoying habit of a spouse or a significant other? How has that tendency affected your relationship, for good or bad?
4. What habits do you have that your spouse or a future spouse may find irritating? Do you believe that you have a responsibility to change that behavior?
5. **Read Colossians 3:13.** When have you found it difficult to forgive a spouse or someone close to you?
6. **Read Ephesians 5:1-2.** When you're frustrated or angry with your spouse or someone important to you, do you find it difficult to "walk in love"? What are some things that you do to work towards reducing that frustration or anger?
7. **Read Romans 5:1-2.** We know that we need the divine, supernatural love that only God can provide. What is one thing you can do this week to be more connected to God in order to help your marriage or, if you're single, help prepare you for marriage?
8. What has been the most helpful thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you?
9. How can the group encourage you this week?

Resources:

[Love A Decision](#), by Gary Smalley

[Love & Respect](#), by Emerson Eggerichs

*If time doesn't allow for you to discuss all of these questions, use only the ones you feel would be most helpful for your group.