



Monthly Marriage Memo



UPCOMING EVENTS

August 21, 6:30 pm

September 18, No Meeting

October 16, 6:30 pm

HUSBAND HELPS WITH DAVE HOW TO LOVE

The Bible says, "Husbands love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;" Ephesians 5:25

Think back on recent days; how have you sacrificially loved your wife? Would she be able to recall it? I dare you to ask her?

PEARLS TO PONDER WITH KELLY WALKING DAILY WITH GOD

The Bible says, "Let the words of my mouth, and meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer." Ps. 19:14

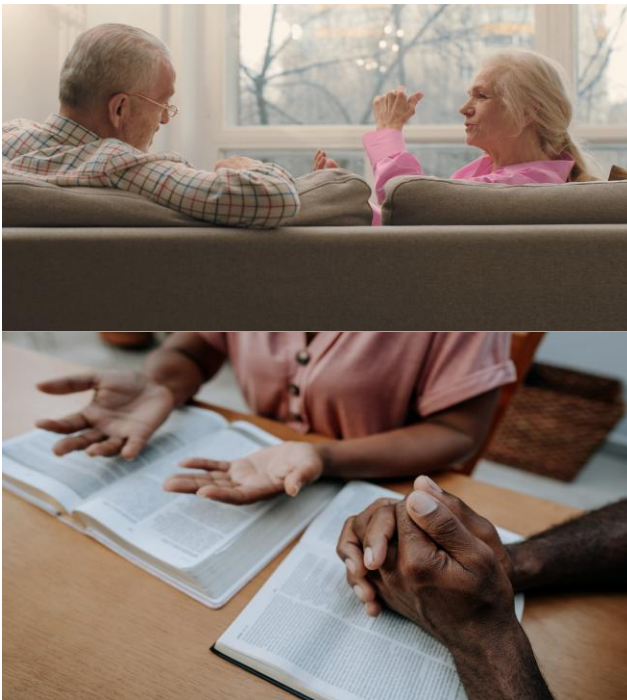
Do you spend time daily reading the Bible and Praying?

PARENTING TIPS WITH GOD

THOUGHTS ON DISCIPLINE

The Bible says: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

The world tells us to train dogs but to raise our kids. Training implies Teaching and Disciplining. Raising implies only physical care. Ponder those implications.



Couples Challenge

Set aside time to pray together to set the tone and posture your hearts toward God and your marriage. For this communication challenge to work you must posture your hearts first.

Pray together:

- Ask God to be present
- That you would both have the endurance to do the challenge well, even when hard
- That He would soften your hearts toward each other and guide your conversations and actions during the challenge
- That He would protect you and your marriage from the enemy.
- That He would draw you closer to him and each other during this challenge.

Notes from Dave and Kelly

Husband Helps with Dave

Welcome men, as we embark on a new journey to build our marriages stronger. As men we too often are afraid to show weakness or emotion. This is probably one of the biggest struggles of humility we deal with. But our wives should be the one person on this planet we should be able to show weakness or emotion to without any judgment. Loving our wives as Christ loved the church is sacrificial Love; thinking of her over our own selves and our own bodies. (Ephesians 5:26) Loving Sacrificially doesn't just mean doing something that might be an inconvenience, although that is a great place to start. Get her a coffee first in the morning, help with the kids or help with the dishes. But another way is showing her vulnerability and humility. I truly believe that being open with our wives and asking them to pray specifically for us in areas we struggle with will bring a truly deep bond. Paul tells us in verse 31 that we became one flesh! We are one with our wives, we must be open and honest, even when it is hard. He is the bridegroom and we are the Bride. That means that anything written to the wives is also applicable to each of us as a saved saint! Remember in Ephesians 5: 32-33 Paul went on to say this was a mystery, but that he was speaking concerning Christ and the church! Think of it this way; Do you open your heart and confess your faults to the Lord when you pray? James 5:13,16 tells us we should! Men, we too often struggle to reach out to other men for help, counsel and encouragement. As married men we are blessed to have a wife we have become one with to trust and cherish and lean on when we need it. The Bible tells us in Proverbs 27:17 "Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend." I'm praying for you all! I'm always here if you ever need to talk!

In Christ's Love,

Dave

Pearls for Pondering with Kelly

So welcome ladies, to our new adventure in growing in our marriages. I hope this monthly marriage memo helps all of us married folks feel encouraged, edified, and energized in our walk with God and our spouses. I just wanted to begin this journey with some simple and familiar wisdom from God's word.

When these things are happening in our daily walk, we can know all areas of our lives will be going the right direction for God to bless us and use us individually as well as our husbands and family.

1- Prayer. I need this advice as much as anyone else! I need to pray more every day. Find things to help you with this. Make a prayer journal or at least write down things that you are praying for so you can see how God answers your requests. God wants us to talk with him as a loving Father. You can pray any time, and you don't have to close your eyes while doing so. I pray while I'm driving or working. Special times of prayer are always waiting! I really enjoy thanking Him for all the blessings he gives; my husband, family, friends, church, his beautiful creation....

James 5:13,16 "Is any among you afflicted? Let him pray. Is any merry? Let him sing psalms. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

2- Reading your Bible every day. I know how busy we all are, and a lot of times it's hard to take time to read God's word. Let me be honest here: I struggled for years with daily reading. I'm not any different. But, in the last 10 years or so I have made it a point to read every day. It has made me fall in love with God's word so much more, and my understanding has increased also. Making time to read every day takes effort, but the more you do it, the more it becomes an important part of your day. I cannot stress it enough! Even if you can only read a chapter, do it! We make time to do so many things we enjoy, as well as the general busyness of taking care of our families. Doesn't it make sense that spending time in God's word is of the utmost importance? You will be amazed at the things you find as you read that apply to your life or bring comfort and encouragement.

Romans 11:33 "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!"

Psalms 119:160 "Thy word is true from the beginning: And every one of thy judgments endureth for ever."

Matthew 4:4 "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Let's encourage one another in this!

Kelly