



Intimacy: God's Design for Marriage

Three Conversational Dates To Rediscover Intimacy In Your Marriage

“Intimacy” is a great word to describe the partnership that God created marriage to be. It is being knit together as soul mates, having an advocate who is always in your corner, feeling desirable--wanted by the one who knows you best.

Intimacy also involves sexual union. Someone has said, “We Christians should not be ashamed to talk about what God was not ashamed to create.” Yet millions of Christian couples never fully talk about the differences, hurts, and misunderstandings that are a part of every couple's sexual relationship.

A careful examination of what divorcees say was missing in their marriages reveals time and again that what was lost was the closeness that we call “intimacy.” They did not intend to drift apart—they just did.

We've discovered that one of the biggest obstacles to intimacy in marriage is that husbands and wives do not understand how different each other's intimacy needs are. In their book, Every Woman's Desire, Fred Stoeker and Stephen Arterburn write, ***Eighty-three percent of women feel their husbands don't even know the basic needs of a woman for intimacy or how to provide intimacy for them.*** A separate author, Archibald Hart, in his book, The Sexual Man cites the identical percentage of men who feel misunderstood about their intimacy needs: ***In my survey, men were asked, “Do you feel that women understand a man's sex drive? Eighty-three percent answered, “no.”*** Eighty-three percent of both husbands and wives say their mate does not understand their intimacy needs! That is why we wrote this booklet.

The first date addresses God's design for intimacy and then how every marriage falls short of that design. Date two addresses emotional and spiritual intimacy. It includes specific questions for a husband to ask his wife to enable him to build the emotional closeness she craves. The third date is best experienced as a weekend get-away, if possible. It begins with the husband pampering his wife, making her feel like a princess, and provides 10 steps to increase sexual harmony and fulfillment as a couple.

We believe this is a vital resource, not only to strengthen marriages, but also in a married man's battle with sexual temptation. Many times it is when things are not

going well in the sexual part of his marriage that a man begins to look for other ways to satisfy his sexual appetite. Scripture says:

“May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth. A loving doe, a graceful deer—may her breasts satisfy you always. May you ever be intoxicated with her love. Why be captivated my son, by an adulteress? Why embrace the bosom of another man’s wife?” (Prov. 5:18-19.)

The best defense against sexual temptation, says God, is a great offense!!!

We are so excited about the way God is using this resource that we are providing the first part of [Date #1](#) as a free download for you.