



Tools For Men

The Art of Marriage

Purpose

To help you and your wife discuss the purpose and challenges of marriage

Advance Preparation

- Schedule a dinner or coffee date
- Each spouse should listen to the 30 minute *The Art of Marriage* presentation available from the HomePointe Center or download at homepointe.org/men.
- Each spouse should spend a few minutes writing down answers to the questions on the reverse side.

During The Date

- Spend 15 minutes discussing your answers.
- Each of you pray this brief prayer aloud...

Father, give me the grace to treat (spouse's name) as a gift from you and to become the gift you want me to be.

Affirming Your Spouse As God's Gift

What are some of the qualities that first attracted you to your spouse, or that you now appreciate? (Mark all that apply.)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Pays attention to detail | Looks good in jeans |
| Remains calm in tense situations | Looks good out of jeans |
| Likes to have fun | Loves to be spontaneous |
| Is well organized | Can really throw a party |
| Stays very focused on task | Gives generously |
| Loves spending time with people | Seemed he/she would be great parent |
| Good at launching projects | Gives wise counsel |
| Wants to work through disagreements | Is easy to please |
| Expresses feelings well | Works hard |
| Likes to talk | Other: _____ |

How Your Marriage Tells The Truth

Every marriage is intended to reflect the living reality of the gospel. Check the ways you think your relationship tells the truth about God. Circle items where your marriage may be vulnerable to the enemy of marriage.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sacrificing for one another | Faithful to marital vows |
| Two made one in physical intimacy | Intimate rather than isolated |
| Each trying to meet the other's needs | Loving/Cherishing one another |
| Forgiving one another | Honoring/respecting one another |
| Open to the blessing of children | Partners rather than competitors |
| Giving love to children | Sharing laughter and fun |
| Pleasing one another sexually | Other: _____ |

Each share one small step you can take to make your marriage a better picture of the gospel in the next 30 days: