

It's Time To Have Fun!

"In The Ring" Series- Part 4

Connect

Okay, just for fun, imagine for a moment that you and your spouse were a set of different kitchen appliances that complimented each other. What appliance would you be and why? How does your appliance compliment the other appliance (your spouse)?

In the series, "In The Ring", Pastor Brandon spoke about a third habit that can help a marriages thrive: **Have fun!**

Genesis 2:24 NLT

A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.

Using Pastor Brandon's lesson outline, lets explore the mandate for having fun, the challenges and obstacles, and discuss possible solutions to the hurdles that we face.

HOW TO BECOME BEST FRIENDS WITH YOUR SPOUSE

1. Get together and connect.

Ecclesiastes 9:9 NLT

Live happily with the woman you love through all the meaningless days of life that God has given you under the sun. The wife God gives you is your reward for all your earthly toil.

What do you think King Solomon (the author of Ecclesiastes) met when he describe life as having "meaningless days"?

Describe some ways that your spouse can "reward" you in a typical day of marriage (let's leave "sex" out of the reward category for now)?

2. Get away and disconnect.

Song of Solomon 7:11 TEV

Come, darling, let's go out to the countryside and spend the night in the villages.

Pastor Brandon suggested that we scheduled the following:

Divert daily.

Withdraw weekly.

Abandon annually.

What are some obstacles that you face in scheduling a “get away” time?

Please share with your group what you have found that works in guaranteeing that you are able to get away in a consistent fashion?

3. Get physical and REALLY connect!

Okay, now we can talk about sex! Well, in a safe, clean, general way that does not include TMI (too much information).

Let’s read that Scripture again from the lesson on Sunday:

Revelation 2:5 ESV

Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first.

Notice there are three admonitions:

Remember (that things are not the same as they were)

Repent (Have a godly sorrow over the failure)

Return (Restore what once was very important)

Without being too graphic, what are things that can draw us away from true intimacy with our spouse?

Read the following passage from Psalms 51:1-4

For the choir director: A psalm of David, regarding the time Nathan the prophet came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba. Have mercy on me, O God, because of Your unfailing love. Because of Your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin. For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night. Against You, and You alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in Your sight. You will be proved right in what You say, and Your judgment against me is just.

What are some of the insights that we can glean from this passage about true repentance?

What areas of your marital life need restoration?

Home Work: Here’s a challenge—the next time you have some alone time with your spouse, go over this study again, ask the questions again, and have a honest dialogue that will help you move closer to each other....and hopefully, have more fun.