

What Happy Couples Know

Nothing

April 16, 2023

Notes

Questions for Personal Reflection and Group Discussion

How would you describe the purpose of marriage? What are the influences and experiences that shaped your understanding of marriage?

In relationships, we tend to use four different strategies to get what we want from the other person: convince, convict, control, or coerce. How have you used these strategies to try to get your hopes, dreams, or desires fulfilled?

When you run into conflict in a relationship, is your tendency to leave, try to win, conform, or compromise? How have those 'solutions' worked for you?

1. Read Ephesians 5:1-2.

In these verses Paul instructs us to follow the example of Christ, who gave up His life for us. Does the idea of giving yourself for the benefit of another person - without expectations that they will fulfill your hopes, dream, and desires - seem reasonable to you? Why or why not?

2. Read John 13:34.

Do you think marriage is about compromise? Why or why not?

What does your spouse, fiancé, significant other, or even your friend **owe** you?

What's in your bucket of hopes, dreams and desires?

Are you expecting anyone to fulfill those hopes, dreams and desires for you?