

GrowInGrace Marriage Newsletter

Issue No. 2



Featured Podcast

- Family Life Today -

Brad and Marilyn Rhoads



The Grace Marriage

<listen to podcast>

Amazing grace saved each of us - can it save marriages, too? Authors and ministry leaders Brad and Marilyn Rhoads share how embracing grace in marriage led to transformation in their marriage and a pathway for it to transform yours, too! (Sept. 4-5, 2024)

FOR MEN ONLY

I've Had Three Wives So Far

[I Do Every Day <link>](#) (11/4/24) by Carlos Santiago

My first wife had a mouth like a sailor. She was harsh and always on guard, ready to attack if anyone crossed her.

My second wife was polite but insecure in her own skin. She hated conflict and the spotlight, preferring instead to avoid both.

My current wife is strong, yet gentle. She doesn't seek the spotlight but won't let it prevent her from doing what needs to be done either.

Each of these women holds a special place in my heart, but don't ask me which one I love the most, because I can't decide. You see, they're all the same person.

My wife and I have been together since 1992. Each day we've changed, ever so slightly, from who we were into who we are.

She is not the same girl I fell in love with, and that's okay.

I'm not the same person either. This is a good thing. We need to grow.

As long as we take the time to pay attention to the little, day-by-day changes we experience in our lives, we're okay. But sometimes circumstances get in the way. Little changes pile up, and when we finally take a moment to look, we're surprised at what we see. Then we have to work twice as hard to get reacquainted.

I know my wife will be substantially different 10 years from now. If I don't want to wake up one day and be disappointed by who I see lying next to me in bed, I need to start getting to know my future wife today.

Receive 'I Do Every Day' daily <[here](#)>

Dates on a Dime

Shop the grocery store together for a few favorite dessert toppings. Build and share your own special sundae.



FOR WOMEN ONLY

"Sweet or Unsweet?"

In case you were wondering, my husband likes his tea sweet. Like one glass could give you a cavity kind of sweet. Me? I don't even like tea. I drink coffee all day.

Knowing and remembering things the two of us like or prefer is one habit we've developed to whisper "I love you." Like when my husband drops a Diet Coke and a bag of peanut M&Ms on my desk when he knows I have to stay up late to work.

Knowing each other's preferences makes us feel loved and, well, known. That's a fantastic feeling.

Take time out of your day today to ask your spouse one or two questions to get to know them better.

[I Do Every Day <link>](#) 11/2/24
by Lisa Lakey

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Life Lessons I'm Learning

by Laurie

Misconceptions by Steven Aitchison

On 30th anniversary of their marriage, the wife baked a bun.

She baked it every morning. It was a tradition.

During the breakfast she cut it across, buttered both sides, and as usual, gave the top to her husband, but her hand stopped halfway....

She thought: "On the day of our 30th anniversary, I want to eat this rosy part of the bun. I have been dreaming about it for 30 years.

Finally! I was an exemplary wife for 30 years and I raised good sons for him... I put so much effort into the well-being of our family."

So she made a decision and gave the bottom of the bun to her husband, but her hands trembled - breaking the 30-year-old tradition!

Her husband took the bun and said to her: What a wonderful gift you gave me today, my dear! For 30 years I did not eat my favorite-bottom-part of the bun....because I thought that it rightfully belonged to you.

We often come up with our own misconceptions.

COMMUNICATE .. ASK- QUESTIONS .. NEVER ASSUME! ❤



Love in Action!

Write down 5 things you are thankful for that your spouse does, and then let them know what they are over the next few weeks either by saying it, texting or writing a note.



Couples Corner

We're in your corner praying for your marriage

Please pray for us as we move forward leading this Marriage Ministry

Romantic Traditions to Brighten the Holidays

[I Do Every Day](#) (11/29/24) by Lisa Lakey

What is it about Christmas that's so hard on a marriage?

Maybe it's all the focus on the kids or the arguments about how much to spend (or more pointedly, not to spend). Or maybe it's just the hustle and bustle of schedules and to-do lists that make us more tired than any North Pole resident on December 24.

I don't know about you, but this season can often take my marital bliss from merry and bright to bah-humbug quicker than you can re-gift Aunt Cheryl's Christmas fruitcake.

But it doesn't have to be that way. This year, I'm focusing less on presents and more on presence. Yes, it's cliche. I know. But however you phrase it, one-on-one time with my hubby is at the top of my Christmas list this year.

How can you set some time aside for your marriage this season?

[Click-in](#) to see what holiday traditions you can tweak or create in order to focus on your relationship this season.

- Married with Benefits -

with Brian Goins & Shaunti Feldhahn



The Highly Happy Marriage: Is That a Thing? [<link>](#)

"Highly happy" is possible for marriage. But how do you get there? Change- even "good" change and growth-can be uncomfortable! Join Brian & Shaunti for a roadmap for perseverance in relationship growth, towards the highly happy marriage you dream of.



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