



34 Free or Low Cost Dating Ideas
20 Essential Questions “Before You Say I Do”
The 4 Main Purposes of Marriage

34 Free or Low Cost Dating Ideas

- 1. Read a book together you both agree you'd probably enjoy.**
 - Man can read first page
 - Woman can read second page
 - Read the 3rd page in silence
 - Discuss book or ideas in book at any point
 - Continuing reading aloud or in silence or combination of both
 - Note: you need to be cuddling for both people to read 1 book..

- 2. Volunteer or Acts of Kindness Date**
 - Acts of Kindness are random acts of service to help others in need that won't cost money.
 - Paint a fence or wall, do dishes, walk dog of elderly or the disabled. Ask what person needs.
 - Wash the car of a neighbor or an elderly person or someone God brings to your attention
 - Make a meal together for a family in your neighborhood
 - There are websites with Acts of Kindness idea so do a search of *random acts of kindness ideas*
 - Volunteer your time together for something worthwhile
 - Buy coffee or something similar for a stranger at a restaurant
 - Buy some of the groceries of a person you don't know in front of or behind you at the supermarket line.

- 3. Thank You Date**
 - Get together to write thank you notes to people who have blessed you over the years
 - Write a thank you card or note to your parents and others for the good they did in your life.
 - You can also call people to thank them, but a special note hand written (not typed) is special.

- 4. Visit Local Zoo, Museums, Art Galleries or Historical Sites: Go on free days or when prices are lower for locals.**

5. Star Gazing

- In advance of date, locate a good place to gaze at stars
- Bring a blanket and some cheese and crackers and something to drink
- Lie on blanket looking at stars and talk about the wonders of the stars, how they were made
- Look for falling stars, planets, constellations like the Big / Little Dipper, Orion and the 3 Sisters.
- Talk about a book or person you read where stars played a big part in their life
- Best to star gaze when moon is not out or hidden. But, you can look at moon too.

6. Go on a Sunset Picnic

- Plan the picnic together and both help prepare what you are bringing so it makes it easier
- Decide in advance a good spot to have both a picnic and watch the sunset.
- Can be at a nearby park, nearby hilltop, mountain area or at the beach.

7. Go on a “Memory Lane Date”

- Select a place outside your home, like a park, hotel lobby, restaurant, museum - somewhere comfortable
- Bring photos, children old school art, memento’s, items you bought or made for each other, cards
- Remember the good times you had with family, friends, vacations, weddings, your first job, first time you kissed, first time you were intimate in marriage, holidays, birthday’s anniversaries, salvation of family members
- This takes time and planning together to refresh your memory so you’ll have lots to talk about

8. Go Hiking Date:

- The park, rain forest, beach, or just around some nearby location that is safe.
- Bring the dogs if you like (or not)
- Bring some water and fruit to share
- Make sure you stop several times to rest and talk

9. Prayer Date: Have you wanted to be able to pray more with your spouse to be or spouse? Great, plan a prayer date

- Make a list of the things you want to pray about for you, the couple, the family and go for a walk hand in hand slowly strolling and praying softly together.
- Stop along the way to pray other things the Lord brings to your remembrance.
- Plan some type of an intimate time together when you get back to your home.

10. Fly 1 Kite Together or Bring 2 Kites Date:

- An interesting twist is to make the kites together yourselves.
- Customize the tail of the kite with a cloth tail that reads: Elena loves Gary or I love Gary because....

11. If near beach or lakes go search “Tide Pools” or go to Aquarium on free or discounted days.

12. **Picture / Be A Model Date:** Bring a camera or cell phone with a camera and take photos. Go to a hat or clothes store or park or fountain and be the “model” for the camera. Post of Facebook or enlarge the best pictures to put in frames.

13. **Bird Watching Date:** Many good places to go. Binoculars can be purchased for \$20

14. **Make Something Together Date:** Ceramic pottery, a garden, a painting, write a piece of music, home-made cards

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