

NO ORDINARY MARRIAGE

Week 4: Moving from “In Love” to “Love”

February 22 & 23, 2014

Saying “I DO” to God’s Wisdom in Marriage

1. Power of Love

Speak your spouse’s love language

Affection

Friendship

Service

2. Power of Truth

Avoid using truth as a weapon

3. Power of Grace

Don’t play fair with your love

Drawing from a Greater Source of Love

I do not know of any more powerful resource for granting forgiveness than that, and I don’t know of anything more necessary in marriage than the ability to forgive fully, freely, unpunishingly, from the heart. A deep experience of the grace of God— a knowledge that you are a sinner saved by grace— will enable the power of truth and love to work together in your marriage.

- Timothy Keller, *The Meaning of Marriage*, p. 160



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Small Group/Personal Reflection Questions:

1. If somebody asked you today, “What is the best way to stay ‘in love’ with your spouse,” how would you respond?
2. In what ways has your personality changed since you first got married? In what ways has your spouse’s personality changed?
3. If you could tell an engaged couple the greatest lesson you have learned about marriage, what would it be?
4. Timothy Keller writes that you should “give each other the right to hold one another accountable.” (p.138, 146) What do you think it means to hold one another accountable? How do you currently accomplish this within your marriage?
5. Read Genesis 2:24. What does it mean to leave your father and mother? How easy or difficult do you think this is for most couples today? How easy or difficult has it been for your marriage?
6. How can your spouse best communicate your love language in the areas of affection, friendship, and service? (*you can find a free assessment tool here: <http://www.5lovelanguages.com/assessments/love/>*)
7. Do you regularly take opportunities to read the Bible or other Christian literature together? If so, what are some benefits to your marriage from doing so? If not, what would be some benefits to your marriage if you did so?

* Keller, Timothy J., and Kathy Keller. *The Meaning of Marriage: Facing the Complexities of Commitment with the Wisdom of God*. New York: Dutton, 2011.



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