

The Passion Prescription - Part 2: Pursuit

“Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife;”

Genesis 2:24 [KJ21]

Cleave—to catch by pursuit, to pursue hard, to follow close, to overtake. Once you catch them you abide with them, are joined together, stick together.

The Pursuit Prescription: Love isn't passive.

It requires _____ to pursue your spouse daily.

Romantic Misconception: If you have to work at your relationship, there is something _____ with it.

The Love Bank

- Each of us has a “love bank;” each person we know has “an account.”
 - Positive experiences together=deposits / Negative interactions=withdrawals
 - When withdrawals exceed the deposits, you run in the red.
 - The good news—you can always make more deposits, it's your choice.
- _____ each other is a primary way to make deposits.

Knowing the Needs of Your Spouse

Men's Needs

- Honor / Respect—your spouse recognizes and appreciates you for what you already are and your present achievements, not for what you could become.
- Friends with wife—spending time doing things together. Sharing in common hobbies, interests, activities, athletics, going places.
- Domestic support—feeling that home is a place to relax, have peace & quiet.
- Attractive spouse—taking care of one's self.
- Sex—not just going through the physical act, but giving oneself emotionally, making love with feeling and interest. This is usually a man's #1 need.

Women's Needs

- Financial Support—having enough money to live comfortably. Feel supported, not strapped all the time. (Not saying be materialistic).
- Honesty—Being able to trust your partner totally. Transparency in your relationship. No lying, deception, or hiding things.
- Open communication—time for meaningful conversations, not clichés or superficialities. Resolving conflict, admit fault and apologize, forgiveness.
- Family commitment / Leadership—feeling that parenting is a team effort, not one-sided; you are partners in raising kids. Your spouse is interested in and committed to the family. Both partake in the moral and educational development. Fair distribution of labor—running the home is divided fairly.
- Soft, non-sexual affection—hugging, kissing, caressing, small expressions of love (text, phone call, small gift, saying “I love you.”)

Build/rebuild your relationship on mutual _____, not mutual need!