



Promise: A declaration I make now that will be needed for the future.

- The strength of your marriage isn't measured by your feelings, but rather your commitment.
- God is more concerned with your direction than perfection.
- I promise to have shared pursuits.
- By nature, we pursue what we don't have.
- We always pursue what we love.

10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Luke 19:10 (NIV)

16 For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son so that anyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (TLB)

- We need to have shared pursuits.

Shared pursuits we need are:

- We pursue God together.

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. Matthew 22:37-38 (NIV)

In his pride the wicked does not seek him (God); in all his thoughts there is no room for God... He says to himself, "Nothing will shake me; I'll always be happy and never have trouble." Psalm 10:4-6 (NIV)

9 Worship and serve him with your whole heart and a willing mind. For the Lord sees every heart and knows every plan and thought. If you seek him, you will find him. 1 Chronicles 28:9 (NLT)

Ways you can pursue God together:

- Pray together.

14 If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

- Read the Bible together.
- Talk about the Talk together.
- Talk about what God is doing in your life.

- We continue to pursue each other.

20 So Jacob worked seven years to pay for Rachel. But his love for her was so strong that it seemed to him but a few days. Genesis 29:20 (NLT)

Ways we can pursue each other:

- When you think something good, say it.

²¹ The tongue has the power of life and death... Proverbs 18:21 (NIV)

19 So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding. Romans 14:19 (ESV)

- Pursue them with words of affirmation.

□ We promise to not use the word divorce.

4 Love never gives up... Keeps going to the end...Love never dies. 1 Corinthians 13:4,7,8 (MSG)

5 ...God assured us, "I'll never let you down, never walk off and leave you," Hebrews 13:5 (MSG)

- Pursue them with words of affection.

3 What matters is not your outer appearance—the styling of your hair, the jewelry you wear, the cut of your clothes— 4 but your inner disposition. Cultivate inner beauty, the gentle, gracious kind that God delights in. 1 Peter 3:3-4 (MSG)

□ I promise to confide in you & not hide from you.

- When you think something special, do it.

31 "Here is a simple rule of thumb for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you; then grab the initiative and do it for them! Luke 6:31 (MSG)

¹⁸ Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him..." ²¹ So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. While the man slept, the LORD God took out one of the man's ribs and closed up the opening. ²² Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib, and he brought her to the man. ²³ "At last!" the man exclaimed. "This one is bone from my bone, and flesh from my flesh! She will be called 'woman,' because she was taken from 'man.'" ²⁴ This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one. Genesis 2:18-24 NLT



**TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE
IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.**

Questions for Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- Do you feel that you continue to pursue your spouse? What does that mean to you?
- How does pursuing God strengthen our marriage?
- Why are feelings not a good gauge to establish the strength of our marriage?
- Why do you think that God is more concerned with the direction of our marriage, rather than perfection?
- Do you feel that you and your spouse currently pursue God together? Why is this important?
- What are some of the ways that we can pursue God with our spouse?
- Why is it important that we continue to pursue our spouse?
- How does pursuing our spouse strengthen our marriage?
- When you think something good about your spouse do you say it?
- How do we pursue our spouse with words of affirmation and words of affection?
- Why is it harmful to use the word divorce in your marriage?
- When you think of something special do you do it?
- What can you do this week to strengthen your marriage?

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