



Dinner & a Marriage CURBSIDE

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- ♥ What do you think your partner's least appealing household chore is?
- ♥ What is the most adventurous thing you have ever done together as a couple?
- ♥ If you could live in any other period, what period would you choose, and why?
- ♥ If you were independently wealthy, what would you like to do for the rest of your life?
- ♥ If you, as a couple, could have dinner with any other couple in history, who would it be, and why?

EXPECTATIONS

SUGGESTION: If possible, include a semi-lengthy drive in this date. It could make it more productive.

Expectations in marriage are quite common. We all have them; however, they can be problematic. You may not even think you have any expectations, but just consider this ...

4 TRUTHS ABOUT EXPECTATIONS

We *all* have them about *everything*.
Marital expectations are mostly *subconscious* and *seldom verbalized*.
The degree of *disappointment* equals the degree of *expectation*.
There is a difference between an *expectation* and a *desire*.

COUPLE TIME

Have you ever felt like you could not measure up to someone else's expectations?
(A boss, a parent, a friend?) How did this affect the relationship?

Before we get married, we have *desires*. We desire our mate will do this and we desire our marriage will look like that. Then after we walk down that aisle, our desires turn into *expectations*. And now the things we used to hope for have become things we expect.

What is the difference between a *desire* and an *expectation*? It settles on the difference between the words "*hope*" and "*should*". A desire is something we hope for ... wish for. An expectation is something that we believe should happen. We deserve it.

COUPLE TIME

Think back to before you were married and discuss some of the desires you had going into marriage.
Have any of those desires become expectations? If so, which ones?

When our spouse meets something from our "*desire*" list ... we tend to be *grateful*.
However, when our spouse meets an expectation from our "*expectation*" list ... we simply *check it off* our list.



HONEY DO LIST

- ✓ What was a marriage expectation you were unaware you had, until it went unmet?
- ✓ Show sincere appreciation the next time your partner does something for you.
- ✓ Identify any way you “keep score” in your relationship. Instead, make it a regular practice to serve your spouse.

EXTRA CREDIT

- ☑ Post a pic of your date night to social media and be eligible for a fun giveaway!
- ☑ “Like” *Dinner and a Marriage* on Facebook
- ☑ Follow *Dinner and a marriage* on Twitter
- ☑ Follow @home_encouragement_ on Instagram
- ☑ Schedule next month’s date night now!
Next month’s topic → Personalities
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