



CONVERSATION STARTERS

- ♥ What's your favorite part about your job?
- ♥ Describe your ideal morning.
- ♥ What is your favorite season? Why?
- ♥ Describe your perfect sandwich.
- ♥ Tell me about the first birthday you remember.
- ♥ What toys did you like playing with as a child?

COMMITMENT & VALUES

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

When it comes to love and relationships, we live in a very passive culture. The overarching idea is that love just "happens" to us. We fall in it without our consent. And we fall out of it at no fault of our own. However, marriage research says the opposite is true. That those who are in happy, healthy marriages have found a way to **CREATE** that relationship. It doesn't just "happen".

4 INGREDIENTS IN A COMMITTED MARRIAGE

Mutual Caring
Mutual Honesty
Mutual Respect
Mutual Responsibility
Mutual Repentance

COUPLE TIME

Take turns listing which "ingredient" (above) your spouse practices best.
Then ask yourself what you can practice better?

The beauty of marriage is that the two of you get to be the architects of your relationship. You get to build it exactly the way the two of you want it. However, all the right ingredients won't make much difference without a foundation of commitment.

COUPLE TIME

What is your definition of commitment?



HONEY DO LIST

- ♥ Does your commitment align with your values?
- ♥ Do your values/commitment align with your actions? You may say your marriage is your highest priority. But does your spouse feel that your actions prove that?
- ♥ If you want to know what you truly value, look at your calendar and your bank account. Because how you spend your time and money reflects what you care about.
- ♥ If others had to learn about what marriage is like by observing yours, what would they learn?

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!
- January's Topic → Dreams*
- Subscribe to *The Marriage to the Max* podcast on Apple Podcasts or Podbean