

General Topics :: What do you do with your spouse for 'date night'?

What do you do with your spouse for 'date night'?, on: 2008/11/16 2:56

Saints,

My wonderful wife and I have taken the godly advice of my mentor in Canada to spend one 'date night' together each week, if possible.

My question and hope of this thread (unless previously discussed, thus I would appreciate some links) is to gather some suggestions as to what a married couple might want to consider for their 'date night'.

Note: I am not necessarily looking for the 'dos and don'ts' of Christian couples, rather the things that you have done with your spouse and have found it to be a blessing to your marriage and acceptable in the eyes of our Lord.

Blessings,
Brian - Mira

Re: What do you do with your spouse for 'date night'? - posted by MJones (), on: 2008/11/16 8:29

Good question BrianMira.

We live in a town of about 40,000 and do not have all that would be available in a large city.

We have come to enjoy, usually on Friday night, to treat ourselves to dinner out and then usually will go to Barnes & Noble where we will sit and look at books. We occasionally meet friends there, which we did last night and have now set up dinner with them in the very near future. Occasionally also, when we do meet up with friends there, we might go out for dessert after our time at Barnes & Noble.

That may not sound exciting, but we are over 50 and seem to be enjoying reconnecting with old friends. We have raised our kids and now have more time to do so.

This is a very good practical question. I hope you get good responses. I started a similar thread a few days ago asking people to briefly describe how God is using them. Mine is nothing organized. Much one on one. I enjoy writing, which again I am able to use in a one on one way through letters and emails.

I, like you, thought it would be good personally to see the many different ways God is using people, and for others to see it as well. The thread is in General Topics and is called 'your ministry'. If you have anything to contribute there, I would be interested in what you have to post.

Good luck with your thread and your date life.

Re: What do you do with your spouse for 'date night'? - posted by Theophila (), on: 2008/11/16 14:28

My DH is a home-body so date night for us consists of snuggling and watching a family movie, healthy snacks and putting our little man to bed.

Re: - posted by ccchhrrriiisss (), on: 2008/11/16 14:56

Hey there...

Our "date nights" usually consist of something entirely spontaneous and include activities that are not the same with each week. I sometimes will take her to a place that we haven't been before...to eat...to just sit and talk...or to see the sunset...or to just remind us about what we like in one another.

I've seen so many after marriage that they often fail to remember the things that they do. It is nice to be alone with my wife and provide acts that display that love. Of course, I would be quite attentive to the things that she wants to do. For example: There is no point in taking her to ride roller coasters if she has motion sickness (silly example); Don't take her to Red Lobster if she doesn't like seafood. You know what I mean?

General Topics :: What do you do with your spouse for 'date night'?

I think that the purpose of taking your wife "out" is to reaffirm your love for her...in her presence. The most exciting part of such outings is not what we do...but the fact that we are together, getting closer, while doing those things.

:-)

Re: - posted by Miccah (), on: 2008/11/16 15:20

3 kids under 5 and a fourth on the way.

Ask me in 10 years. :-) :-) :-)

Re:, on: 2008/11/17 9:27

Date night at our house consists of locking the bedroom door! lol

4 boys, remember?

Seriously tho, we dont get out enough. We went to Outback a few weeks ago. (I highly recommend the "Bloomin' Burger") Just to have an hour or two alone to talk, catch up on things... look into her beautiful blue eyes.

We also enjoy doing ministry together. We volunteer at the Rescue Mission, things like that. Generally we involve the kids in that too, but we also like to just do that sort of thing together without the kids now and then.

We go for walks, we love going to the beach and leaving the kids at the beach house (friends of ours own it) as we walk along the waters edge when there's a full moon. Thats kinda romantic.

Go for a drive on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Simple stuff like that.

We also like to get to at least one Carolina Panthers game each year, just the two of us. We also try to get to a NASCAR race each year too... again, without the kids! Always makes for a fun weekend in Charlotte.

Krispy

Re: What do you do with your spouse for 'date night'?, on: 2008/11/17 13:10

We have five children; 3 under 5, but we are blessed to have family near by. (free baby sitting) We do not go out that often (once per month, once every two months)...

We love good food, so we usually go out to a nice restaurant that serves multiple courses (so dinner takes a while) and we just talk and talk and talk. Usually we are near a town or a city, and so we will go walking after.

Re: What do you do with your spouse for 'date night'? - posted by LoveGodsWay2, on: 2008/11/17 15:51

My wife & I will skip dinner with the kids. And after they go to bed, we'll order a pizza. We sit & talk while eat our pizza together. Sometime we'll watch a movie also.

My wife always tells me, "It's the quality of time and not the quantity of time that we spend together."

So I try to as often as I can to spend a little time with her.

Quote:

-----He who finds a wife finds a good thing, (Proverbs 18:22)

Re:, on: 2008/11/17 20:30

Unfortunately we don't go on many date nights as we did in the past. Our babysitter thought college was more important! LOL! We try to go out once a month and when we do, it is usually some dinner and maybe a movie. Mostly its a time for us to shop for the kids and for ourselves. We sometimes will grab a coffee, sit down and talk. We enjoy just simple things walking through the mall, bookstores, etc! I suppose we are old and dull now, but we enjoy just being together holding hands, talking and laughing. She makes me laugh like know one else!

thanks for starting this thread, its refreshing to focus on something like this rather than a deep theological discussion.

Mike

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2008/11/17 20:36

I'd like to commend all you married folks for trying to still have a "date night." For one thing that grieves my heart is to have heard that A.W. Tozer's widow, who later remarried, exclaimed that she "finally had a husband." As great as Tozer was, and as much as we cherish the great things he left the church, I think this is a sad blemish on his life.

Romance, sadly, has often not been looked at by the Church as something that is spiritual. Indeed, there are few activities that are as spiritual as romancing your spouse. Sadly, the Song of Solomon has been allegorized away or simply ignored. Likewise, proverbs does command us to "cherish the wife of your youth."

An old saint once told me to never stop pursuing your wife once you get married. Pursue her (or him) until the day you die. Granted, I am not married yet, but, I plan heed the advice of my older brother once I am.

Re:, on: 2008/11/18 7:53

Tozer was a pastor, and it's a tough job. Very hard on families because church members demand so much from their pastors.

However, if we follow the Biblical model of the church we can avoid a lot of that. In the NT we see Christians taking care of the poor, taking care of one another, etc. Today we expect the pastor to take care of us. Someone's sick? Call the pastor. No, my friends! Someone's sick? YOU go visit them!

Someone's in jail? YOU go visit him!

etc and so on...

Krispy

Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2008/11/19 23:41

I appreciate this refreshingly simple thread. (It's a pleasant change from threads that discuss things we have no control over.)

My wife, pretty, cheery, energetic, positive, selfless, practical, and convinced I'm Mr. Wonderful, is just a very easy person to be around. For fifteen years we've happily made it a point to go out up to twice a week---once for ourselves, and once with different people. Our personal dates almost always involve some time at a restaurant, and occasionally involves an overnight at a hotel. We enjoy talking for hours, and the time always goes by too fast.

As a special side note, my time with my wife is enhanced greatly when I make dates with the kids. I try to make a regular habit of breakfast or dinner dates with each of them individually throughout the week. I live in a little country community but there is a pizza shop a block down the street that each of the kids enjoy the opportunity walk to and sit with dad after their homework is vanquished. Some weeks we are less successful at finding the time for our dates due to the notorious over-scheduling that is typical of modern life. In those weeks we are at least inclined to fit in some kind of venture together. (One activity we recently started is going to a local open mic night and building relationships with people in our town.)

We live in a cozy house, in a cozy burg, so being cozy around each other is very natural here in the Compton household. I attribute our current happy situation to God's wise afflictions in not giving me the things I wanted when I was younger..

General Topics :: What do you do with your spouse for 'date night'?

.he was already preparing for me the things I am thankful for in my 40's when I was yet in my 20's.

And remember men, if you want to sustain romance with your wife, then take your children out for dates and watch the little hearts float out of her when she looks at you. ;-)

Blessings all,

MC

Re:, on: 2008/11/20 8:01

Hey Comp... thats a good point. We don't have daughters, but instead the Lord blessed us with 4 future men of God.

My two older boys would look at me sideways if I said we're going on a date... lol. But I do make a point of spending time with each of them. When I go to Home Depot I take one with me. When I run out to get pizza (cant get delivery where we are) I take one with me. We do canoe trips down the French Broad, we hike at Chimney Rock or Graveyard Fields (those familiar with western NC know what I am referring to). We fish, we hunt... etc.

It's very important for dads to spend time with their kids. Hard to believe my oldest will be old enough to vote in the next Presidential election. They sure do grow up fast.

And you're right... I get those adoring eyes from my bride when I treat her babies special. :-)

Krispy

Re: What do you do with your spouse for 'date night'? - posted by LoveGodsWay2, on: 2008/11/20 8:20

Testimony

Yesterday was our wedding fifteenth anniversary.

Not having a lot on money, we went to a new pizza place. We had pizza & salad.

Sitting near us was another couple with their daughter (about three yrs old). The daughter kept looking at my wife, which created conversation between us & the other couple.

We told them it was our anniversary & that we have 6 children. The wife said that she was 1 of 6 children, but her parents never went out like we (my wife & I) were.

Anyway, they wished us a happy anniversary and left. My wife & I finished our meal and it came time to pay the bill.

Then our waitress told us that our bill was paid by the other couple. Thank you Jesus! He is so awesome!

And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen. Phil 4:19-20

Re:, on: 2008/11/20 8:36

Hey thats cool! Isn't God good?

We enjoy picking up other peoples bills in restaurants too. It's more of a blessing to us than it is for the other people.

It's a great witness to the waitress too.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2008/11/30 1:45

Saints,

Quote:

KingJimmy wrote:

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...edited

Quote:

KrispyKrittr wrote:

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Krispy

Quote:

Compton wrote:

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MC

I appreciate the responses and have been encouraged, since I have been doing similar things with my wife. However, two things concern me.

The first is the lack of responses. I do not say this because I feel like people are ignoring 'my' thread, rather because I know now there must be more married couples. The lack of responses causes me to think that couples are not having 'date nights' or are not spending quality time with their spouse. With the thousands of hits and replies to other threads, it is not due to the lack of believers, so I wonder why this subject is taken as less important.

The second concern is about the quote KJ brought us about Tozer. I am not going to knock Tozer, but it makes me wonder about other 'men of God', whom we raise to that plateau, but have 'failed' to be 'men of the house', especially to their spouse.

Maybe my concerns are unwarranted and I am raising a blank and transparent flag, however, having read the thread a few times as it has grown the same two concerns have rung true.

Are we taking care of our responsibilities properly and are we leading by example and setting that example as a light on a hill for younger believers to follow?

What do I know, I have only been married a year and a half?!...although, I do seek examples and Sainly direction.

Blessings,
BrianMira

Re: - posted by MJones (), on: 2008/11/30 15:33

Quote:

BrianMira wrote:

two things concern me.

The first is the lack of responses.

I liked your thread and I think I was the first one to respond to it. It deals with real life and was refreshing to think on things that aren't so deep for a change.

'krispykritter' (not sure of the spelling) had one on economic woes that I felt the same way about. I enjoyed the responses to it.

I had one that I had hoped to see more responses to that I called 'your ministry' where I wanted people to briefly describe the ministry they are involved in. I thought it would be interesting and helpful to see the different ways God uses His people. Not many responded to it. It is in General Topics if it interests you to do so.

I have not been on the site long, but I have learned, as eager as we all are to see if anyone responds to our thoughts, you almost have to face ahead of time the possibility that no one will. It is really no reflection of the quality or lack thereof of what we have said. There is just so much that goes through here, it is hard to give it all its due.

One of the lighter things I have posted was a couple of days ago called 'hospitable friends - God's gift to us'. I felt as good about the thought as any I had posted. Only one couple responded to it but it seemed very genuine. I really appreciated what they had to say.

I am learning to post less, keep it positive and just make sure before I submit, that I should. After that, it is the Lord's to do with what He pleases.