GOD HAS A PLAN "B" FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

Questions for Husbands and Wives

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INTRODUCTION

When God made the cosmos (meaning the beauty of everything working together), He designed marriage as a picture of His own nature, intending it to provide the greatest degree of fulfillment and satisfaction imaginable. For this to happen, two things were necessary from the very beginning: unity ("it is not good for man to be alone") and fruitfulness ("be fruitful and multiply"). These two things are inseparable. (Think about it!)

As you seek together for greater unity and fruitfulness, here's a helpful reminder: you can either receive half the reward, joy, satisfaction and fulfillment God has made available to you, or you can get double. The difference? Do things your way (that's the half) or do them God's way (there's the double.)

These questions are meant for those unpressured moments alone when you can be vulnerable with each other, after listening to the content of the "Plan 'B" seminar together. They alternate between two questions/statements that the wife presents

to her husband, followed by two that the husband will offer to his wife. We'll start with the wife's questions.

LADIES:

What signals does your husband send you when he is done listening before you're done talking?

Describe for him what this does for you when it happens.

MEN:

What do you feel your wife really respects about you?

In what area would you like her to be more impressed with you?

LADIES:

In your present relationship with your husband, where do you have the most difficulty getting your bearings from him? (Another way of putting it: where do you feel the biggest emotional gap exists between you?)

What's your favorite thing about your husband that makes you feel secured, close, engaged, connected?

MEN:

What would you like to do this summer?

If your wife could be genuinely interested in an activity or subject that you could do together, what would it be?

LADIES:

What does your husband do (or what has he done) that leaves you feeling "all warm and fuzzy"?

Is there some little thing that he does/ did/ could do that you really like?

MEN:

What does your wife do that makes you feel especially safe and cared for (covered)?

What really worries you right now—something you need sympathy/comfort for?

MEN (AGAIN):

What areas of your life together are you willing to accept full responsibility for—from here on out? (This means that if it doesn't get done, you'll accept full responsibility for the consequences.) Note to wives: can you agree not to nag about these areas?

Which ones are you not ready to accept right now?

What feelings come up for you when you get nagged?

LADIES:

In what areas do you feel the least appreciated? The most?

What kind of remarks help you to feel appreciated? Unappreciated?

MEN:

Where and how do you most feel her support?

Where do you feel you've lost her support/belief in you? Or where you never had it?

LADIES:

What is the hardest thing about having out-of-control emotions? When you have them, can you describe how it feels for you?

Think of a time when he was really understanding—when you felt understood, connected even though you were having a rough time. Describe that for him.

MEN:

What's the most difficult part of your job?

Is there one thing she could do to make you feel thanked/ appreciated/ recognized for what you do as breadwinner/ protector?

LADIES:

What could he do to really help you with your practical household duties?

What have you stopped asking help for? Where have you given up?

MEN:

What's the feeling you get after you've just enjoyed uninhibited sex?

In what way would you like your wife to show more interest in your physical relationship?

LADIES:

What spiritual quality do you most enjoy about your husband?

What kind of leader/ decision-maker do you really want for your family? Your advice to him about this can be the very best advice he'll ever get.