

THE *Big 3*

EPISODE: 108

TITLE: How to Plan Awesome Dates With Your Spouse

What used to come easily as something that built intimacy and deeper connection can easily fall by the wayside of business, tiredness and just plain...life. Date nights can become a much-loved and protected time in the regular rhythm of your marriage—something you need and look forward to. Remember these three things:

1. **1. Love is a choice and romance doesn't happen like in the movies**, and then magically stay that way. All fires need to be re-kindled, stoked and fed. This is one of the most important things you can bring intentionality to in your life.
2. **2. Your marriage is the best picture of the gospel God has given you.** Or it can be. How you submit to one another, serve one another, love and sacrifice your preferences and “rights” in the relationship can all be a beautiful picture of Jesus and how he has laid his life down for others. Working on your marriage not only affects you and your spouse, but it affects your children and those friends that are watching and learning as you model this life in Christ.
3. **3. A question: Do you have a marriage worth imitating?** Could other couples or soon-to-be couples hang out with you and your wife or husband and really learn what a Godly marriage looks like. In all areas? Date nights are the perfect start, or restart, to intentionally working on the things in your marriage (we ALL have them) that could improve and become a better picture of grace and the gospel.

As a reminder, here are the five steps to a great date night:

1. Put a regular time on your shared calendar. Keep It sacred. 2. Take turns planning out your date night. 3. Date nights don't have to be elaborate or expensive. 4. Swap out babysitting with other couples to save money. 5. Don't talk about work stuff or only problems and negative things. But DO go after heart issues.

Thanks for listening...we'll see you in the next episode!

Caesar & Heath

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