

Recommended Reading for Couples

The Marriage Builder by Larry Crabb. Probably the best book on the market for laying out God's design for the marriage relationship and integrating the Scriptures with solid psychological dynamics. Includes a discussion guide.

A Lasting Promise by Scott Stanley. Provides the practical skills for living out the model of marriage described in *The Marriage Builder*. Includes exercises.

Married without Masks by Nancy Groom. One of the best descriptions of the biblical and unbiblical views of authority and submission in marriage. Complete with Bible study guide.

I Married You by Walter Trobisch. A true classic that will inspire and guide those from the seriously dating to the long-term married.

Men and Women by Larry Crabb. Lays out a biblical model for manhood and womanhood, and inspires the reader to pursue that model.

Fit to be Tied by Bill and Lynne Hybels. This well-known pastor and his wife share their lives and insights. A must-read to any seriously dating or married couple.

Fighting for Your Marriage by Howard Markman, Scott Stanley, and Susan Blumberg. Practical skills for a great relationship, written by the leading researchers at the University of Denver's Center for Marital Studies. The secular version of *A Lasting Promise*, mentioned above.

The Heart of Commitment by Scott Stanley. If you're feeling stuck with your relationship, this book will help you sort out your feelings and lead you back into your marriage with renewed energy.

The Case Against Divorce by Diane Medved. Solid research to warn our society about the consequences of divorce.

The Freedom of Forgiveness by David Augsburger. Powerful and practical biblical counsel about how to forgive.

Love Must be Tough by James Dobson. Love doesn't mean becoming a doormat, nor does it mean trying to control another person. There is a God-dependent way to love by standing in another's path. Here's help on how to do that.

Boundaries in Marriage by Henry Cloud and John Townsend. Learn the limits you need to set in order to avoid enabling the misplaced dependency of others and to truly love them into freedom.

Marriage Savers by Michael McManus. The ground-breaking work of the founder of the Community Marriage Policy movement. Learn how others have saved thousands of marriages and how you can become involved.

12 Hours to a Great Marriage by Howard J. Markman, Scott M. Stanley, Natalie H. Jenkins, Susan L. Blumberg, Carol Whiteley. This step-by-step guide will make working on your marriage fun.

The Trauma of Transparency by Grant Howard. A classic biblical and practical study of how to overcome barriers to intimacy in relationships.

The Unexpected Legacy of Divorce by Judith Wallerstein.

Divorce Busting by Michele Weiner-Davis

COMMUNICATION

The Five Love Languages by Gary Chapman. Practical ways to communicate love to your spouse in a manner that truly connects.

FOR MEN

The Silence of Adam by Larry Crabb. A challenge to live out authentic manhood.

The Power of a Praying Husband by Stormie Omartian.

Men in Mid-life Crisis by Jim Conway. Learn to understand and deal with an important life-stage for men.

FOR WOMEN

The Power of a Praying Wife by Stormie Omartian.

Women in Mid-life Crisis by Jim and Sally Conway. Learn to understand and deal with an important life-stage for women.

Your Husband's Mid-life Crisis by Sally Conway. Puzzled by the strange things your middle-aged husband is doing? Here's help.

SEX IN MARRIAGE

Restoring the Pleasure by Clifford and Joyce Penner. Help for renewing the joy of marital intimacy, written by a clinical psychologist and nurse, from an evangelical Christian perspective.

The Gift of Sex by Clifford and Joyce Penner. Another excellent resource by the same authors as above.

Intended for Pleasure (Revised Edition) by Ed and Gaye Wheat. A classic written by a godly Christian physician and his wife.

RESOLVING CONFLICT

When You Don't Agree by James G.T. Fairfield. A classic on conflict styles and how to work with them amiably.

FINANCIAL

You Paid How Much for That? by Natalie H. Jenkins, Scott Stanley, William Bailey, Howard Markman.