



What if your marriage could become more than simply surviving the demands of life? What if it could become emotionally safe, spiritually alive, and truly life-giving? In this Men's RoundTable series, we will explore God's design for intimacy, healing, delight, and connection through *The Deep-Rooted Marriage* by Dan Allender and Steve Call alongside *Fire and Song* by Carl W. Lehnbauer. This is an invitation for men to move beyond merely "getting along" toward cultivating a marriage that becomes truly life-giving.

### Marriage – What If? – The Marriage Your Heart Longs For

Created for Connection. Called to Love. Invited to Grow.

Highland Colony Men's Roundtable

[www.Menstable.Com](http://www.Menstable.Com)

June 11, 2026

**Scripture:** John 15:4; Psalm 27:4; Genesis 1:25-28; Song of Songs 6:3; Proverbs 20:5; Psalm 139:23-24; James 1:19; Phillipians 2:4; Isaiah 43:18, 19; Ephesians 3:20

**Music:** It's Not About Me by Mark Ware

**Videos:**

**Resources:** **Book: *The Deep-Rooted Marriage*** by Dan Allender & Steve Call **Book: *Fire and Song*** by Carl W. Lehnbauer

#### GOD – MARRIAGE – GROWTH

1. **A BEAUTIFULL LOVE STORY** → The Bible was never intended to be a marriage book, but it is a beautiful love story—a story of God in pursuit of His bride. We are the bride of Christ. God created us to have a relationship with Him and with others.
2. **A DIVINE GAZE** → I am convinced that it is God's intention that we each experience a divine gaze when we look into our partner's eyes. Jesus encouraged us to move out of the house of fear and to make our home in Him (John 15:4 & Psalm 27:4).
3. **LIVE IN LOVE** → Song of Solomon is a convincing witness that men and women were created physically, emotionally, and spiritually to live in love. The Song is a prism of the intimacy of marital love between man and woman, God's deep love for His people, Christ's Bridegroom love for His church, and the Christian's love for his Lord.

#### Getting Clear-Eyed About Who You Are - Creation Mandate: Genesis 1:26-28.

1. **DREAMING ABOUT WHAT COULD BE** → Engage your imagination and dare to ASK: What do I dream for my partner and me? How would I love to see our story unfold in the years to come? How might we step into transformation, freedom, and vibrancy?
2. **REMEMBERING WHY WE SAID "I DO!"** → Until we understand why we married each other, it is nearly impossible to move forward.
3. **WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON** → Most couples struggle in one or more of the following ways: a lack of delight, loneliness, contempt, and feeling stuck.
4. **UNDERSTANDING WHAT SHAPED YOU** → Any violation of human dignity that comes through emotional, physical, sexual, or spiritual harm.
5. **THE DANCE WE KEEP REPEATING** → We need to discover the familiar song and dance that has protected us and prevented us from deeper intimacy: the war against need. It has been the leading cause of disconnection in our marriage.

#### THE POWER OF IMAGINATION: "What IF?"

1. **YOUR STORY IS STILL SPEAKING** → Foundational idea to understand if that our Family of Origin, wounds, joys, disappointments, and experiences shape how we enter marriage. Proverbs 20:5. Psalm 139:23, 24.
2. **YOUR WIFE IF MORE THAN HER BEHAVIOR** → Seek to understand what is behind behavior. Our individual stories shape our present interactions and patterns. James 1:19. Phillipians 2:4.
3. **MARRIAGE CREATES A NEW STORY** → Every marriage is a story of two people formed by different worlds joining together to create a universe that has never existed before. Isaiah 43:18, 19. Ephesians 3:20.
4. **CURIOSITY LEADS TO DELIGHT** → Every person longs to be deeply known. "Help me understand." Create safety – experience intimacy – live in delight. Genesis 2:25.

#### Song of Songs – 6:3.

1. **Poetry** → Translated from ancient Hebrew, the Song offers images meant to awaken our imagination like an impressionistic painting that conveys emotion and wonder. Their ambiguity is intended to draw us into contemplation. The question to ask is not, "What would this look like?" but rather, "What emotions do these images stir?" We are to consider the wonder of love!
2. **Song** → The Book is not a story, but a song that points to the center (3:6 – 5:1) as the couple's wedding. The passionate romance is built on the foundation of godly marriage.
3. **Central Scene** → The structure makes the central scene, the wedding day and night, the focal point of the Book. God-centered marriage is the foundation on which this strong and beautiful love is built.

#### ACTION: Journal This!

1. KNOWING YOUR STORY – What fear most often shows up in your marriage (relationships)?
2. KNOWING HER STORY – What wound does your wife carry that deserves greater compassion from you?
3. IMAGINATION – What if your greatest marital conflict is actually an invitation to deeper understanding?



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Men's Roundtable



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**Scripture – The Message**

**John 15:4 - 4** "Live in me. Make your home in me just as I do in you. In the same way that a branch can't bear grapes by itself but only by being joined to the vine, you can't bear fruit unless you are joined with me.

**Psalm 27:4 - 4** I'm asking God for one thing, only one thing: To live with him in his house my whole life long. I'll contemplate his beauty; I'll study at his feet.

**Genesis 1:25-28 – 25** wild animals of every kind, Cattle of all kinds, every sort of reptile and bug. God saw that it was good. **26** God spoke: "Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature So they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle, And, yes, Earth itself, and every animal that moves on the face of Earth." **27** God created human beings; he created them godlike, Reflecting God's nature. He created them male and female. **28** God blessed them: "Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge! Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air, for every living thing that moves on the face of Earth."

**Song of Songs 6:3 - 3** I am my lover's and my lover is mine. He caresses the sweet-smelling flowers.

**Proverbs 20:5 - 5** Knowing what is right is like deep water in the heart; a wise person draws from the well within.

**Psalm 139:23-24 - 23** Investigate my life, O God, find out everything about me; Cross-examine and test me, get a clear picture of what I'm about; **24** See for yourself whether I've done anything wrong - then guide me on the road to eternal life.

**James 1:19 - 19** Post this at all the intersections, dear friends: Lead with your ears, follow up with your tongue, and let anger straggle along in the rear.

**Phillippians 2:4 - 4** Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand.

**Isaiah 43:18, 19 - 18** "Forget about what's happened; don't keep going over old history. **19** Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new. It's bursting out! Don't you see it? There it is! I'm making a road through the desert, rivers in the badlands.

**Ephesians 3:20 - 20** God can do anything, you know - far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.

**“It’s Not About Me” by Mark Ware**

<p>It's not about me... it's all about Him.  <b>Him...</b>                  God only wise, the Ancient of Days,                  Exalted and holy in all of His ways.  <b>Him...</b>                  Creator, Sustainer, the First and the Last,                  Sovereign Ruler, by no one surpassed.  <b>Him...</b>                  Robed in majesty and clothed in splendor,                  Yet condescended to me with a love so tender.  <b>Him...</b>                  Who showed patience to me as I fought His call,                  Pursuing riches, honors, life's pleasures and all.  <b>Him...</b>                  Who spared not His Son, but sent Him to die,                  So that punishment for my sin would pass me by.</p>	<p align="center"><b>Him...</b>                  Who afflicted His Son for crimes that were                  mine,                  So I could wear His crown of righteousness                  divine.  <b>Him...</b>                  Who buried my sins to remember them no                  more,                  His wrath satisfied and replaced with His favor.  <b>Him...</b>                  Who commanded the grave to give up His Son,                  So that I can follow Him when my life here is                  done.                  No longer His enemy,                  I'm a wayward son reconciled,                  Now blessed with riches galore                  As His adopted child.</p>	<p align="right">In His heavenly mansion                  He has prepared me a place,                  Where I can rest and rejoice                  In His glory and grace.                  So you see,                  It's not about me...                  It's all about Him.                  I'll dwell in His eternal light,                  And it will never grow dim.                  For from Him and through Him and to Him are                  all things.                  To Him be glory forever,                  King of all kings.    <b>Amen.</b></p>
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**Philip K. Hardin, M.A., M.Div.**

Director of Business & Professional Outreach, Intl. - Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist, Licensed Professional Counselor, and Certified Life Coach  
 563 Johnson Avenue – Fairhope, Alabama 36532  
 Phone: 601-925-0707

Email: [phil@bpointl.org](mailto:phil@bpointl.org)

Webpage: [www.bpointl.org](http://www.bpointl.org)