



# MARRIAGE-- *What If?*

The Marriage Your Heart Longs For. ♥

GROWING TOGETHER. ♥ LOVING DEEPER. ♥ LIVING CONNECTED.

— *Not just good, but truly life-giving.* —

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

**GENERATE GOODNESS!  
RECONNECT – REPAIR – RESTORE**

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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.



# GOD – MARRIAGE – GROWTH

Insecurity is overcome by the love of a Spouse  
– Song of Solomon 1:5-2:7 & 7:6-8:4.

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1. **LOVE SPEAKS IDENTITY** → The Groom continually calls his Bride beautiful, lovely, and precious. His words become instruments of healing. Do your words strengthen your wife's confidence or reinforce her insecurities? S of S – 1:8 – Groom speaks. 1:5, 6 – Bride speaks. Proverbs 18:21.
2. **LOVE CREATES SAFETY** → The Bride gradually learns she does not have to hide. She is fully KNOWN and WELCOMED. Security grows where acceptance is repeatedly experienced. S of S – 2:3-6 & 2:16 & 7:9-12.
3. **LOVE CULTIVATES CONFIDENCE** → By Chapter 7 & 8, the Bride no longer defines herself by comparison or shame. She confidently receives and returns love. Her identity has been strengthened through faithful covenant love. Healthy marriage patiently replaces fear with reassurance, criticism with blessing, and distance with delight. S of S - 7:10-13 & 8:5.

# RECONNECT: Turn Toward Instead of Away!

## Chapter 11 in D-R Marriage

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1. MOMENTS OF DISTANCE → Disconnection is not failure. Remaining disconnected is.
2. PURSUE INTIMACY → Intimacy begins again when one person chooses to move toward the other. That first step might be:
  1. Starting a conversation.
  2. Being curious.
  3. Offering a hug.
  4. Admitting you're hurt.
  5. Expressing DESIRE!
3. RISK VULNERABILITY → Reconnection requires courage because someone has to risk being vulnerable first. James 4:8 – “Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.” As we learn to move toward God, we become more willing to move toward one another.



# REPAIR: Own Your Part!

## – Chapter 11 in D-R Marriage.



1. WHAT IS MINE TO OWN? → Repair begins when we stop asking, “What did my spouse do wrong?” and begin asking, “What is mine to own. Repair is more than saying, “I’m sorry.” It includes: confession, humility, listening, empathy, forgiveness, and changed behavior.
2. DON’T AVOID CONFLICT → A sincere apology doesn’t erase pain. But it opens the door for healing. Healthy couples become skilled at repairing conflict. Matthew 5:23, 24 – “First go and be reconciled to your brother.” Jesus places enormous value on repairing broken relationships.
3. DEFEND or UNDERSTAND → When conflict happens, do you spend more energy defending yourself or understanding your spouse?

# RESTORE: Create Something Better Than Before!

## Chapter 11 in D-R Marriage

**1. STRONGER INTIMACY** → Biblical restoration isn't returning to the old normal. It's becoming something better. God never wastes pain. Every repaired conflict creates deeper trust. Greater understanding.

**2. RESTORATION** → Grace becomes stronger than resentment. Forgiveness becomes stronger than pride. Christ becomes the center again. Marriage becomes a living picture of the Gospel. Not because there are no wounds—but because wounds are redeemed. Joel 2:25. II Corinthians 5:18.

**3. HARDSHIP** → God uses difficult times to strengthen your marriage rather than weaken it.



## ACTION: Journal This!

1. Where have we drifted apart?  
(Reconnect)
2. What do I need to own? (Repair)
3. How can I help create something stronger than before?  
(Restore)



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