



- If couples are to build a strong marriage by becoming best friends, the Bible teaches three key principles. We covered the first last week:

**First, married couples should enjoy a close companionship.**

**Second, married couples should experience meaningful, on-going conversation.**

- A. In the Song of Solomon 5:16, the bride says about the bridegroom, "*His mouth is most sweet...*" This was one of the keys to them becoming lovers and best friends.
- B. To put it simply, close friends **talk**.
  - "*Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so doth the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel.*" **Proverbs 27:9**
- C. Typically, wives have a greater **need** for conversation than their husbands.
- D. When daily conversation takes place with a man, a woman feels **bonded** and united with that person.
- E. The enemies of good conversation:
  - Using conversation to **punish** each other. Ephesians 4:29.
  - Using conversation to force agreement to your way of **thinking**.

→ *“Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.” James 1:19*

- Dwelling on **mistakes**, past or present.  
Philippians 3:13

F. The friends of good conversation:

- Give to her your undivided **attention**.  
1 Peter 3:8 *“...be courteous.”*
- **Respond** to what she says.  
1 Peter 3:7 *“...dwell with them according to knowledge...”*

→ A husband’s refusal to discuss things with his wife can **destroy** his marriage.

- **Respect** her opinions.  
1 Peter 3:7 *“...giving honor unto the wife...”*
- Always speak with **love** and kindness.

→ *“A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.” Proverbs 15:1*

- **Praise** her often.

→ *“Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.” Proverbs 31:28*

**When couples are having daily, meaningful conversation, three things happen:**

- You come to **understand** each other more clearly.
- You learn what it takes to meet each other’s **needs**.
- You become **best** friends.