



- 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 _____.
 - "*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 _____ for conversation than their husbands.
- D. When daily conversation takes place with a man, a woman feels _____ and united with that person.
- E. The enemies of good conversation:
 - Using conversation to _____ each other. Ephesians 4:29.
 - Using conversation to force agreement to your way of _____.

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

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

F. The friends of good conversation:

- Give to her your undivided _____.
1 Peter 3:8 *“...be courteous.”*

- _____ 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 _____ his marriage.

- _____ her opinions.
1 Peter 3:7 *“...giving honor unto the wife...”*

- Always speak with _____ and kindness.

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

- _____ 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 _____ each other more clearly.
- You learn what it takes to meet each other’s _____.
- You become _____ friends.