

## 10 Questions for Couples to Enhance Marriage

*From Tom Eliff*

1. **What can I do to cause you to feel more loved and cherished?**
2. **How can I best demonstrate my appreciation for you, your ideas, and your role as my wife?**
3. **What can I do to assure you that I hear and understand your heart's desires?**

Discovering the "heart desires" of one's spouse takes time, attention, focus, and above all a determination to talk about a matter until each understands the other

4. **What can I do to make you feel absolutely secure?**

If not addressed, feelings of insecurity or lack of confidence will hover over a home like an oppressive cloud. With their differing gifts and responsibilities, a husband or wife will often sense a threat to which the other may be totally oblivious. For a secure home both husband and wife must hear each other out on these issues, and they must respond with immediate and positive action.

5. **What can I do to ensure that you have confidence and joy in our future direction?**

Too many couples have accepted the fantasy that marriage allows the husband and wife the privilege of living together while each does his or her own thing. Husbands in particular tend to move away from the heart of their wives by announcing their plans for the future and simply assuming that what brings joy to the husband will also bring joy to the wife.

6. **What attribute or practice would you like to see me develop or improve?**

7. **What attribute would you most like to develop in yourself, and how may I help you in the best possible way?**

8. **Is there some accomplishment in my life that would bring joy to your heart?**

After years of marriage counseling, I have come to believe that few things bring distress to a wife like the failure of her husband to have clear, positive objectives for the future. Yet nothing so encourages a man as the privilege of accomplishment!

9. **What would indicate to you my desire to be more like Christ?**

My wife told me that there are four visible indicators which reveal the state of my spiritual life: (a) Prayer (b) Genuine interest in the Word of God (c) Sensitivity to sin and promptness in putting it aside the moment God's Spirit brings conviction. (d) A life marked by the fruit of the Spirit.

10. **What mutual goal(s) would you like to see us accomplish together?**