

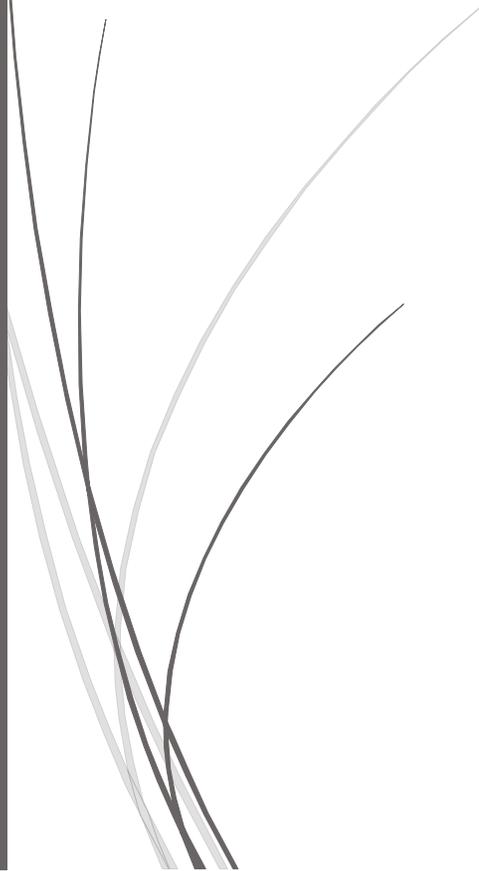
Lesson 10

THE PATH TO SOUL SATISFYING LOVE

LEARNING TO LOVE MORE DEEPLY



MarriageHelper





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UNDERSTANDING HOW TO USE THE LOVEPATH FOR LIFE...

Can two walk together, except they be agreed? (Amos 3:3)

It is time to see whether you traveled up the LovePath to greater love, remained stagnant in the same condition in which you started, or backtracked down the LovePath.

If you are not in a relationship, this chapter will have little value to you now. However, if early in your next relationship you do the exercises in chapter one, and you and your partner work through this video series and workbook, then complete chapter ten. By doing so, you will find how the LovePath grows your relationship.

BIBLICAL VIEW OF GROWING

We know that God wishes His children to grow to the level of highest purpose. Throughout scripture we watch the changing of people such as King David, Peter, Paul, and others.

Consider David. He went through life starting as a “man after [the Lord’s] own heart.” (1 Samuel 13:14) He became a powerful warrior, evolving to a sinner of mammoth proportions (Psalm 51), and finally again to the man after God’s own heart. Luke wrote of Jesus, *He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.* (Luke 1:32) What greater honor could David receive from God Himself?

David grew. His relationship with God changed. He became a better person. God wants us to grow to maturity – especially spiritual maturity.

- *Yet we do speak wisdom among those who are mature; a wisdom, however, not of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are passing away.* (1 Corinthians 2:6)
- *Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; yet in evil be babes, but in your thinking be mature.* (1 Corinthians 14:20)
- *...until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.* (Ephesians 4:13)

- *But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil. (Hebrews 5:14)*

There is great value to measuring how one grows in spiritual maturity. However, that cannot be done with any degree of objectiveness unless criteria exist for evaluation. Various writers have tried to delineate which characteristics should be measured to evaluate spiritual growth. We do not enter that discussion here, but agree that some criteria must exist for the measurement of any growth and maturing.

Now that we established the Biblical principle of reaching maturity in relationship to God, we extrapolate that to growing in relationship with each other. God wants us to develop deep love for one another.

- *...until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. (Ephesians 4:13)*
- *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)*
- *Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; (Romans 12:9-10)*

DO THESE “LOVE” PRINCIPLES APPLY TO MARRIAGE?

- **To Husbands:** *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her; that...So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church...For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh...let each individual among you also love his own wife even as himself; and let the wife see to it that she respect her husband. (Ephesians 5:25-33)*
- **To Wives:** *Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior...teaching what is good, that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, (Titus 2:3-4)*



How would either spouse – male or female – evaluate whether love is growing, stagnant, or in retreat?

We offer one method in the remainder of this chapter.

CHARTING GROWTH

In chapter one, we asked you to complete the Kansas Marital Satisfaction survey. It may be that by now your scores differ from what they were then, because you both focus on following the LovePath. We ask you to take it again now.

Answer each of the three questions using this scale of 1 to 7.

1 = extremely dissatisfied

2 = very dissatisfied

3 = somewhat dissatisfied

4 = mixed

5 = somewhat satisfied

6 = very satisfied

7 = extremely satisfied

1. _____ How satisfied are you with your marriage?
2. _____ How satisfied are you with your relationship with your spouse?
3. _____ How satisfied are you with your husband/wife as a spouse?

Now add the three scores and divide by three to get an average score. _____

Subtract chapter one scores from your scores now such as in this example.

Now = 6

Minus Chapter One = 4

Difference = 2



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If the difference is a negative, list it as such. Example:

Now = 4

Minus Chapter One = 7

Difference = -3

Put your scores in the table below:

	Chapter One	Now	Difference
1.			
2.			
3.			
Average			

The first measure of insight is to examine your Difference scores.

- If it is higher for a question or average, you are going the right direction on the LovePath.
- If it is zero for a question or average, you are not going up the LovePath but at least you are not going down the LovePath in the wrong direction.
- If it is lower for a question or average, you are going down the LovePath in what we refer to as backtracking.

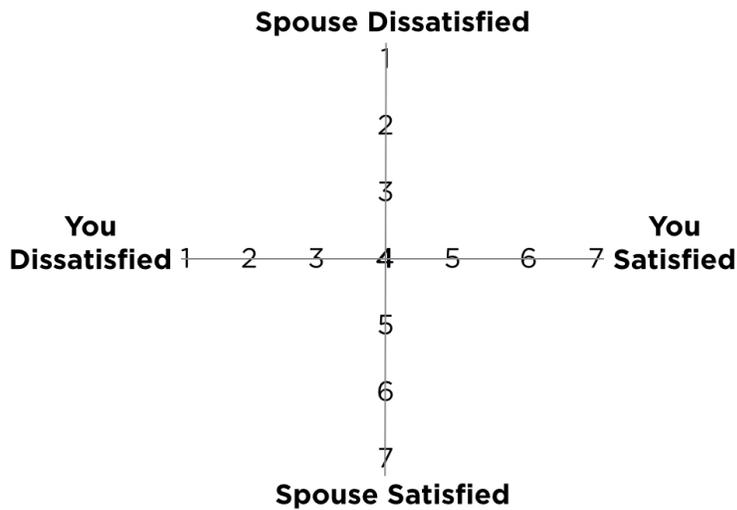
More than examining your Difference scores, analyze any changes. Whether the scores increased, remained the same, or decreased, you should try to determine why. Was there a specific event? Has one of you changed? If so, which one? Or have you both changed? Have the exercises in this workbook made a difference? If so, good or bad?

An adage says that we can talk without thinking but that we cannot write without thinking. Therefore, as you analyze why your scores changed, write here the reasons you believe they did.

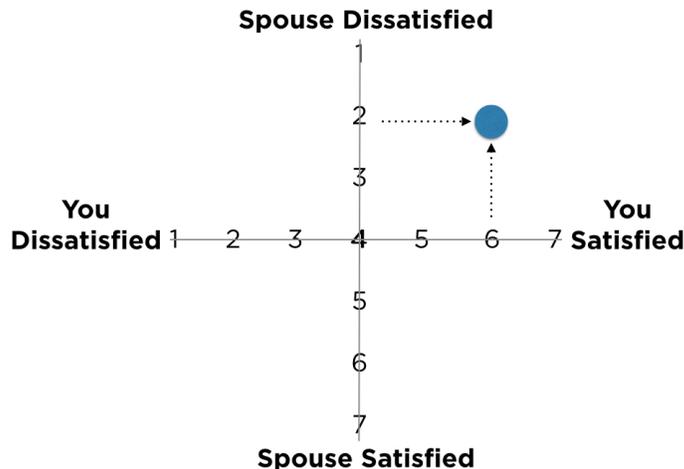


PLOT YOUR SCORES

If you and your spouse are communicating honestly and without negativity, use the following four-quadrant model to discover where you are in your relationship now. Plot your average score from now on the graph below. Then plot your spouse’s average score from now. The quadrant in which your scores intersect gives you a snapshot of where your relationship is now.



To see clearly how this graph works for the two of you, imagine that your average score is six while the other person’s score is two. As shown here, those scores intersect in the upper right quadrant.





What do your intersecting scores indicate about your relationship?

IN CONCLUSION

If you are not in a relationship, learn this path and follow it wisely in any relationship you develop.

If you are in a relationship: It may work for both parties in a relationship even if only one consciously follows the LovePath at the outset. Following the LovePath does not affect your partner as you wish, it is still the best thing you can do for you. You will never learn to love another as you should until you first love yourself.

In this chapter of the workbook, we wanted only to show you how your relationship changed over the last ten sessions. We hope it grew in love. If it did not, it can. Follow the LovePath - thousands of couples proved that it works if one works it.



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If we can be of assistance to you in your engagement or marriage, contact us at Marriage Helper, Inc.:

- If your marriage is in trouble, we can help with the intensive weekend *Marriage Helper 911 Workshop*. Since 1999 our success rate in saving crisis marriages and helping people learn to love again is three out of four couples. Even those who do not want their marriage to continue – or who are in love with someone else – have that success rate. Find out more by calling one of our crisis marriage consultants at **866.903.0990** or visit our web site at www.MarriageHelper.com.



DAILY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

DAY ONE

Spend a few minutes meditating and talking with God about His love for you. Jot your thoughts here.

The one thing that I will make sure I pray about today that will help me love more is....

DAY TWO

Spend a few minutes meditating and talking with God about your love for your spouse. Jot your thoughts here. (If single, about your love for the person that you love most.)



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The one thing that I will make sure I pray about today that will help me love more is....

DAY THREE

Spend a few minutes meditating and talking with God about your spouse's love for you. Jot your thoughts here. (If single, about the love from the person that you love most.)

The one thing that I will make sure I pray about today that will help me love more is....

DAY FOUR

Spend a few minutes meditating and talking with God about how to grow in love for your spouse for as long as you live. Jot your thoughts here. (If single, about how you would like to love when you marry, if you plan to marry.)



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The one thing that I will make sure I pray about today that will help me love more is....

DAY FIVE

Spend a few minutes meditating and talking with God about how you can use the principles of the LovePath to grow in your love for Him. Jot your thoughts here.

The one thing that I will make sure I pray about today that will help me love more is....



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4. How do you define love after this study?

5. What do you commit to do to grow on the LovePath with your spouse?



NOTES AS YOU WATCH THE VIDEO



MARRIAGE HELPER

If your marriage is in crisis—or if you love someone whose marriage is in crisis—our success rate since 1999 is three out of four marriages. It doesn't matter if one spouse comes reluctantly or under pressure. It doesn't matter if one is madly in love with someone else. Our success rate remains just as high. It is, of course, by the grace of God Almighty.

If you wish a miracle for you or someone you love, call now toll free 866-903-0990 or visit us at www.marriagehelper.com.

ABOUT JOE BEAM

Joe Beam is Chairman of Marriage Helper, Inc., a Tennessee not-for-profit corporation founded to guide people through the processes of love and specializing in saving marriages in crisis. Desiring to change the way couples live and love, he developed the LovePath system, a unique and highly effective methodology that combines a solid knowledge of relationship principles, human behavior, and group dynamics.

The author of several books, Joe developed courses, seminars, and workshops attended by hundreds of thousands of people. He has been a guest on The Today Show, Good Morning America, The Montel Williams Show, Focus on the Family radio, The Dave Ramsey Show, and others. He has been in People magazine and Better Homes and Gardens magazine, as well as many newspapers and publications across America.

BOOK JOE BEAM TO SPEAK AT YOUR CHURCH OR ORGANIZATION...

Joe speaks on several topics related to love, sex, and marriage. Though Joe always includes a section on the LovePath, you can choose from several other topics for the remainder of the seminar. Several topics are available. The most popular are Joe's sessions on personalities and the very frank session on sex in marriage. However, you choose the topics most beneficial to your church or organization.

Call 866-903-0990 to get details.

BOOKS BY JOE BEAM

The Art of Falling in Love *The Art of Falling in Love* is the culmination of years of research by marriage and love expert Joe Beam. In these pages, Beam reveals a tried-and-true process for finding genuine, lasting love. In fact, this process—or “LovePath”—consists of four concrete steps that anyone can follow. Those who walk this path will fall in love whether they intend to or not, and those who stray from it won’t find true love no matter how hard they try.

Seeing the Unseen: Preparing for Spiritual War In this national bestseller, Joe Beam reveals Satan's powerful weaponry - his lies, deceptions, and manipulations and unmasks his strategy to destroy your life and those you care for. This is not a book of wild sensationalism; rather, it is a dedicated study of God's Word.

The True Heaven This book is the expanded follow-up to *The Real Heaven!* It is an exciting and fast-paced book that deals with many topics of what Heaven will be like. This fascinating book uses the Bible to answer tough questions about Heaven and the next life.

Getting Past Guilt (Formerly known as Forgiven Forever) Forgiveness. The word itself fills our hearts with peace and hope. But countless Christians are plagued by haunting feelings of shame. Joe gently unmasks your fears and reveals assurances from God's Word that will fill you with the peace and confidence before the Lord that you crave.

Becoming One: Emotionally, Spiritually & Sexually Can two uniquely individual people really become one—sexually, emotionally, and spiritually? Not only is it possible, it's what we were created for. It's what God had in mind all along. In this marriage-changing book, you'll learn how to nurture intimacy spouse at all levels.

Fantastic Families. Based on the largest study of strong families ever done, Joe coauthored this with Dr. Nick and Nancy Stinnett, as well as his wife Alice. It leads parents and children through the six characteristics of strong families with clear information and specific applications that the entire family can make immediately.



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Please visit www.MarriageHelper.com to order the above books as well as additional books and resources.