



The
FOUR LAWS
of
LOVE

Growing Together

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Focus Couples should have a common purpose such as serving God together or building a family together. Growing together in your relationship with Jesus is the most important thing a couple can do; only God can meet your deepest need.

Fun If you had to eat one food for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Review Key Scriptures: 1 Peter 3:8

1. Making non-emotional decisions together.

In marriage, we have to be intentional about growing together. Even if you have grown apart, you can make a decision to grow back together. The first thing that helps couples grow as partners is to make decisions based on faith instead of emotion. Emotions are real, but decisions need to be based on the Bible and what God says.

2. Life purpose is connected and respected.

Every day and every season of your marriage should be a time of growth. This happens for the committed couples who build their lives together upon the foundation of God and His Church. God put His blessing on Adam and Eve together and would not bless them when they were separated. Couples have a common purpose to raise godly children and to expand God's kingdom.

3. Growing in our relationship with Christ.

Our daily relationship with Jesus is the most important issue in marriage. Only God can meet our deepest needs, and only He can empower us to love others as we should. As you pray together and go to church together, you grow in your partnership.

Group Dynamics Idea Marriage is two people equally partnered and submitted to each other. Allow time in your group to do the following together (or encourage couples to do this later at home): Choose one area of your marriage where you want to yield to one another. Share with each other why you want to surrender this area. Pray together and trust God to bring unity.

Discuss

1. Can you think of a time you made a decision based on emotion? What was the outcome?
2. What does it look like to make decisions based on faith versus fear, and how do we know the difference?
3. How can emotions sometimes get in the way of making relationship decisions?
4. What are needs that only God can meet in our lives? How does it take pressure off your spouse when you go to God for those needs?
5. What are common things that separate couples, causing them to become independent of one another?
6. What are ways you and your spouse are growing together?

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- Commit to non-emotional-based decisions.
- Commit to our mutual purposes and repent of independence.
- Commit to Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Prayer Heavenly Father, renew our hope in Your great design for marriage. Help us to prioritize our spouse daily. Show us areas where we are independent of our spouse and where we need to repent. Give us wisdom to create a marriage that reflects Your perfect plan and that is committed to raising godly children and to growing Your kingdom. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip You are not the only one caring for the people in your group. The pastoral staff of Gateway and the leaders over you are there to help you if needs arise that feel bigger than what you are comfortable handling on your own. Some examples may include people who need counseling, benevolence, or crisis help. Reach out to the leaders over you if you need help.