

A dark wood door with a large, ornate metal knocker and a keyhole. The knocker is circular with a textured, possibly leather or metal, center. The wood grain is prominent and dark. The keyhole is a classic shape, located below the knocker.

FOR YOUR
NEXT
DATE NIGHT

GAL's
EYES ONLY



FOR GALS

Well done getting involved in tonight's date night. We certainly hope that you and your husband had a great night. As we're sure you know one great date does not make a great marriage. One of the best practices we've seen when it comes to cultivating a great marriage is consistency. When a wife consistently makes attempts to respect her husband, typically these efforts are appreciated and responded to well. As wives, it is great to remember that we don't always have to plan big, extravagant date nights. Small, consistent deposits often elicit the same response and communicate love more than large and inconsistent deposits.

With that in mind, here are some great practical ideas for some things to do to pursue your husband in the days ahead. In his book "Love and Respect," Dr. Emerson Eggerichs uses the acrostic "CHAIRS" to describe six practical ways to respect your husband based on Ephesians 5:33, "However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband." (ESV):

Conquest – *Appreciate his desire to work and achieve.*

Practical: One day this week, tell your husband how much you appreciate his desire to do his work with excellence and his desire to achieve at work.

Hierarchy – *Appreciate his desire to protect and provide.*

Practical: One day this week, thank your husband how much you appreciate his desire to provide for the family and protect the home. Thank him for the way he has provided for your family, a project he has recently completed around the house, or a way you feel protected.

Authority – *Appreciate his desire to serve and lead.*

Practical: Men love to try and lead and serve/help with practical things - it is the way they are made by God. One day this week, thank your husband for a way he has served you recently (taking out the trash, helping with the dishes, giving the kids a bath, etc). If you start looking out for it, we bet you'll find something.

Insight – *Appreciate his desire to analyze and control.*

Practical: Men love to help you solve problems. One day this week, invite your husband into a problem that you need help solving and watch him shine. Thank him for his desire to help solve problems and let him know what a blessing it is from God to have someone like that in your life to help you.

Relationship – *Appreciate his desire for shoulder-to-shoulder friendship.*

Practical: At some point this week, engage with your husband in a hobby or area of interest to him. Does he like college basketball? Watch a game with him. Does he like to fish? Ask him to describe his best fishing day ever or look at a fishing gear catalog with him and ask him to explain how certain things work (you can

do the same with golf, woodworking, cooking, whatever his hobby is, engage with him in it). Want 100 extra bonus points? If you enjoy the activity and he doesn't feel like you are pretending to enjoy it, you get 100 bonus points.

Sexuality – *Appreciate his desire for sexual intimacy.*

Practical: At some point this week, initiate sex with your husband. Bonus points if you can build anticipation by leaving him a note on the bathroom mirror and send him a “fun” text message during the day.

Congrats if you went 6 for 6! Your husband told us he won't mind at all if you repeated these again!

FUTURE DATE NIGHTS

We know that husbands do not have to plan all the dates. Here are two ideas for future date nights. Take the lead on these and get them on the calendar. Your husband will feel loved:

Your Name Rocks

Plan your date around your husband's initials. For example, if your husband is named John Parker Mason – then plan appetizers at Jake's, entrée at Prego and dessert at Mangos. Tell him that the date tonight has a pattern and if he figures it out...there will be an extra dessert course!

Blue's Clues

Give you husband two riddles on Friday afternoon (send them via text message). Solving the riddles will reveal that weekend's date location. For example – a variation of this restaurant's name would be “wooly shells” (answer: Fuzzy Taco). Another variation – start with really broad clues on Monday and make the clues a little more revealing as the week progresses.



- For more information on Date Night Done Right, visit www.watermark.org/datenight
- For more information on Watermark's marriage ministry, visit www.dallasmarriage.org