

Out & About: Down the Road

Because we're out, and it's about us!



You are going out, and it's about the two of you. To keep it about the two of you, here are a few suggested ground rules:

1. Do not talk about money, kids (if you have them), in-laws or any other potentially relationally deadly topics. If this feels awkward, you are not alone. That is why you are doing this.
2. Reconnect
3. Recharge
4. Relax



Ask another married couple who is "down the road" (older and more experienced), the following: What do you think is the secret to a happy marriage?

You can ask complete strangers in the restaurant or call a couple you know and respect.



This date is all about thinking about what you want your marriage to be "down the road." You will explore the unknown and ask for wisdom for how to make this a great date, and a great marriage.



On your ride home, determine a couple who is "down the road" that you would like to go on a double date with. (We have provided 52 questions for you.) Then determine a couple who you are a little further down the road from, and offer to go on a double date with them.



Ask your friends or family members for recommendations for restaurants you've never been to before. (It's even better if it's in a town you don't often visit.)

Once you arrive, ask the cashier or server what is the most popular item on the menu. Order that or take a chance on an unknown dish. As you enjoy dinner, fill out the time capsule document provided on the following page.

Then take a picture of the two of you, a "couple," and post it on Facebook. Use #mpdate to tag the post.

It's important to look down the road and dream of what you want your marriage to be in the future.

Take the completed Time Capsule sheet and put it in an empty water bottle. Then bury it in a place in your back yard, hide it in the back of your sock drawer, or put it in the freezer. Then set a calendar alert on your phone, or write it on your calendar as a reminder to open it one year from today.

Time Capsule



Below Is the Hope For Our Marriage:

Fill in the following blanks. Choose just one thing and one action step for each of the blanks. Keep it positive and make it as specific as possible.

We want more _____.

(e.g., time as a couple, more laughter, more praying together, more focus on intimacy, more dates)

In order to accomplish this we plan to _____

_____.

We want less _____.

(e.g., less stress, less distractions, less debt, less tension)

In order to accomplish this we plan to _____

_____.

Out & About: Double Date: 52 Questions

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Do you know a married couple that inspires you? If so, invite them on a double date and learn from their marriage. Here are some questions to guide the date.

1. How did you two meet?
2. How long did you date before you married?
3. Tell us about your wedding? How much did you spend?
4. Who was in your wedding party?
5. Where did you go on your honeymoon?
6. Tell us about your first home? Square footage? Cost?
7. What was your household income that first year?
8. How many jobs have you had during your marriage?
9. What was your worst job?
10. What was your favorite job?
11. How does your generation's work ethic compare to that of our's?
12. Tell us about your kids?
13. What was the hardest part of parenting?
14. What observations/concerns do you have for 21st century parents?
15. Do you believe the days go slow and the years go fast? How so?
16. When did you come to faith in Christ?
17. Who played a significant role in your faith journey?
18. Do you have a life verse?
19. Do you remember a sermon that profoundly impacted your life?
20. Which character in the Bible do you most identify with?
21. How do/will you serve the church in retirement?
22. What is your best childhood memory?
23. Share with us the toughest season of your marriage? What did you learn from that season?
24. What world event most impacted you?
25. Which U.S. President inspires you the most? Why?
26. What is your greatest hope for our generation?
27. What is your greatest fear for our generation?
28. What is your greatest hope for our church?
29. What one issue drove a wedge between you two in the early years of your marriage?
30. Did you prioritize your marriage while raising kids? How or why not?
31. Was there ever a time where you wanted to throw in the towel and give up on marriage?
32. Have family or friends ever discouraged you in your marriage? If so, what did they say? What would you say to them now?
33. Do you have a friend or family member who regularly encourages you in your marriage?
34. Were/Are your parents followers of Jesus?
35. How did your parents impact your marriage?
36. To the husband...Is your wife the Queen of your home? How do you display this official coronation to your kids?
37. To the wife...In what practical ways do you show respect to your husband on a daily basis?
38. Sex: spontaneous or scheduled?
39. Which TV sitcom best represents your marriage and family?
40. Do you have a regular date night? Most creative date?
41. What is the best vacation you've been on as a family?
42. What is the worst vacation you've been on as a family? What would you do differently if you could redo that trip?
43. What are your favorite travel destinations?
44. Do you prefer buffets or gourmet dining?
45. What steps are you taking to care for your health?
46. Describe your dream vacation.
47. How do you make each other laugh?
48. How do you divide household chores?
49. Define your marriage in one sentence.
50. Describe your spouse's personality.
51. What one big dream do you have for your marriage?
52. After _____ years of marriage, what would you say is the #1 secret to a smokin' hot marriage?

52 Questions Provided by Woodland Hills Family Church, Branson, MO.