



LOVE THAT'S REAL. LOVE THAT LASTS.

DR. GARY & BARB ROSBERG

“A Dose of Perspective”

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February is ‘love month’ and we often reflect on what love means. True love, eternal love, necessitates being anchored in wisdom. The Word of God (where we get wisdom) tells us that love is eternal, is inerrant, and is trusted.

Steve Farrar is a good friend of ours. On one recent visit he told us about a young pastor who asked him ‘Steve, how do you do it?’ He was asking about how Steve was able to keep his perspective on Christ. Steve’s response was that it’s “all about a leather chair and a black leather Bible” that he spends time in each morning. “For the rest of the day, the world will lie to me.”

Where is the wisdom you seek? All comes up short next to God’s Word. Steve Farrar also tells about his father. In the morning, Steve never had to see his dad to know where he was...in the Word of God.

There are three main places where we gain wisdom from God: His Word, the Holy Spirit through prayer, and through the godly counsel of others in our lives. Let’s take a look at each of these areas.

1. Wisdom needs to submit to the Word of God
God trumps everything you hear no matter how much other things may tickle your ears.
Ephesians 3:14

Say to God, “I want to know what YOU think.” The Lord will help you know your spouse’s heart and mind as well.

TURN TO YOUR MATE

You are either in, coming out of, or going into a circumstance where you need wisdom from God’s Word. What is the Word revealing to you right now about your circumstance?

2. The second area where we can gain wisdom is through the Holy Spirit in prayer. In your prayer life, does truth trump the experience when you're praying? We say we don't know God's plan or purpose for our circumstances but if we trust Him and what He has told us through prayers then we know He'll be glorified through those circumstances.

Emotions can be hard on us and try to sway us. But we can release those emotions to Christ and take them to the Lord. The Enemy of God tries to cause confusion but prayer and the guidance of the Holy Spirit will keep us on course.

We guarantee you that your marriage will be turned upside down if you begin to pray together everyday. Try it for the next 30 days.

TURN TO YOUR MATE

Right now take your spouse's hand and pray together.

3. The third area where we can gain wisdom is through the counsel of godly friends around us.

Wisdom wouldn't be a virtue if it was easy. Wisdom comes as we are refined, we fail, fall down, experience trials, and then experience the grace and mercy of God. Others around us have gone through different types of circumstances and God has taught them through it. You can trust the work God is doing in them.

One of our friends' husbands told his wife that when she hung around a particular group of women, she came back critical. But there was another group of friends that he loved when she hung out with them because she came home acting more kind. Can you identify friends that fit either category in your life?

Surround yourself with some people who don't tell you just what you want to hear but that speak the truth of God to you. Don't seek a perfect friend or advisor but instead look for humility and someone who is willing to confess and go low with you. Ask God to show you one godly man or woman in your life who will share the truth with you.

TURN TO YOUR MATE

Men – ask your wife if she believes the men in your life, that you open up to, are rooted in Christ. Then women – ask your husband the same about your friends.