

# Life Notes *Family Matters with Pastor Cory*

## 6. **Date Your Mate**

### INTRODUCTION

Ron Luce once wrote that he and his wife follow a “7s Principle” in their marriage. Every 7 days they have a date night, every 7 weeks an overnight date, and every 7 months a vacation.

Now, most couples probably can’t pull this off. I know we can’t! And actually, it sounds like a logistical and financial nightmare. But the concept is powerful: dating should be a priority in marriage.

Too often marriage ends the dating process. And there are plenty of excuses to justify it. Money, time, kids, etc. But the fact remains; we find a way to do the things most important to us.

Valentine’s Day is next week! (You’re welcome for the reminder☺) What better time to revamp your plan for dating?! So I want to use this segment to give you a few ideas to spark your creativity. Enjoy!

### DATE IDEAS

At times, each spouse should take initiative to plan a surprise night out. But there’s also nothing wrong with planning a date together. Here are a few ideas to get your started:

- Go to a new restaurant.
- Watch a Hornets game in Charlotte.
- Play a sport.
- Eat ice cream from Zesto.
- Visit a drive-in theater.
- Go ice skating at The Plex.
- Go fishing.
- Walk the market in Charleston.
- Dress up and go to Saluda’s.
- Go camping at Dreher Island.
- Have dinner and cuddle by the fire.
- Take a stroll down Gervais.
- Visit the Coca-Cola factory in Atlanta.
- Go to the XO Simulcast (or any other marriage conference).
- Cook a meal together.
- Walk Lake Murray Dam.
- Take an art class together.

### FUN IDEAS

Some of these are silly; some are stretching. But hey! Who ever said marriage was easy?! Try a few to keep things interesting:

- Come up with an inside joke.
- Look into her eyes while talking.
- Read a marriage book together.
- Dance.
- Pray aloud together.
- Give her a backrub without further expectations.
- Write love notes.
- Leave him small gifts for each day you are out of town.
- Put your phones face down.
- Hold hands during worship.
- Look at the stars.
- Wrestle.
- Kiss every single day.
- Take her flowers or a gift to her office.
- Play in the rain.
- Take him coffee in bed.

### DISCUSSION IDEAS

There are a thousand places to go and visit. But what makes a night out memorable is the content. Here are a few conversation starters, in case you’re a little rusty:

- \*Talk about your children and their future.
- \*Chat about your career and how it affects your calling.
- Discuss your sexual relationship.
- Talk about good books or blogs you’re reading.
- Draw plans for your dream home on a napkin.
- Discuss your bucket list (vacations, achievements, etc).
- Play “Would you rather…”
- Talk about your spiritual gifts.

*\*don’t allow these to dominate your conversation*

### CLOSE

Marriage is what you make it! And I’m going to choose to make mine a fun one. It costs, but well worth it. So ask the Lord to bless your efforts and reap the benefits of making your marriage fun!