

Marriage Tips

From Pastor Tandi

Appreciation 11-11-18

Friends,

I remember a time when my husband and I helped with summer camp as the cabin leaders' pastors. We worked hard, putting together some fun learning and bonding experiences for them and had good results. Several came to us and said how much they appreciated everything we did and that it made their experience really great. We felt like heroes!

David and I were each other's cheering section. I think he did it better than I did, but I learned through the years. I often told him things like: "You're a gift from God to me" -- "You're the best husband I could have asked for" -- "You're so smart!" -- "You're good at encouraging people"

His compliments to me were often what kept me going. I'm not saying we always felt like appreciating each other --- but we chose to speak words of appreciation and affirmation in order to keep our marriage strong, rather than tearing each other down by our words. These were words of faith, spoken out of what we desired for our marriage.

We need each other, and a big part of that, is appreciation.

>>> **To appreciate:** to recognize the full worth of -- to value -- to admire -- to treasure

Col 1:3-4 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints.
(appreciation and encouragement)

When we show appreciation for someone, it gives them a feeling of worth and actually causes them to want to perform better. Appreciation and praise for someone gives them motivation to improve. The opposite can result if we're consistently pointing out the faults of another person. They tend to feel worse about themselves and often lack motivation for becoming better and don't try as hard.

Challenge: This week, as you practice showing appreciation and value for your spouse, keep in mind that we are not doing this so we can have something in return. We're showing love as unto the Lord.

1 Thess. 2:6 We were not looking for praise from men, not from you or anyone else.

He loved us, so we can love others!
Pastor Tandi