

Lutheran Marriage Encounter
Post Weekend Resource

The Romance, Disillusionment and Joy of Dialogue

Each month's spiral is intended to give encountered couples a mini effect of the weekend — a boost, a shot in the arm. Through the formal presentation, followed by unmasked, sincere "where you are at" sharings, knowing that you will be accepted with no judgment, each individual and couple is given support, encouragement and the knowledge that they are not alone in their struggles.

We all go through the cycle of romance, disillusionment and joy in our relationships, whether it be over a period of time, one day, or several times in one day . . . and so it goes with our dialogue. Through this month's presentation, "The Romance, Disillusionment and Joy of dialogue," we will be able to recognize the times we enjoy our dialogue, the struggles we go through with it, and then the joy of discovering how worthwhile dialogue is to our relationship.

1. WHAT WERE MY FEELINGS, THOUGHTS AND JUDGMENTS ABOUT OUR DIALOGUE INITIALLY AFTER OUR WEEKEND? HOW HAS IT CHANGED SINCE THEN? (H&W) Concentrate on part one and only briefly on part 2.
2. SHARE WITH US YOUR TIMES OF: A. ROMANCE; B. DISILLUSIONMENT; C. JOYS; WITH YOUR DIALOGUE.
With each above, share: a. Thoughts, judgments and feelings; b. Effect on our relationship; c. Effect on my relationship with our children, God, and others; d. How did I respond to spouse, children, God, others; e. Other aspects. (H&W) (This should be the bulk of your presentation and is broad enough for you to really be yourselves.)
3. WHY DO I WISH TO CONTINUE WITH DIALOGUE AND WHAT DO I HOPE TO GAIN FROM IT?

10 + 10: WHY DO I WANT TO DIALOGUE WITH YOU? HDTMMF?

OPEN SHARING: SHARE WITH US YOUR STRUGGLES AND JOYS WITH DIALOGUE.

SCRIPTURE: PHILIPPIANS 3: 12-14

- OTHER QUESTIONS:
1. HOW DO I FEEL WHEN WE MISS OUR DIALOGUE?
 2. HOW DO I FEEL ABOUT DIALOGUING FOR 90 CONTINUOUS DAYS?