

BETTER Together

PART 2: UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL (SEAN SEAY)

INTRODUCTION

All marriages begin on the wedding day. That day every couple feels close, but many times the feelings of love are overshadowing some of our spouse's flaws. We usually get married wearing "rose-colored glasses." But it doesn't take long for reality to set in and we realize we aren't as close as we thought we were. It takes time and effort to get really close to someone. Tonight we want to discuss what else it takes.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Was your wedding day a dream or more crazy like Sean's? What made that day memorable?
2. Eventually the honeymoon wears off and we all begin to face the challenges all relationships face. What are some things your spouse has had to tolerate from you in your marriage?
3. Sean said marriages get closer when each individual grows spiritually. How have you historically defined spiritual maturity?
4. Read the fruit of the Spirit below. Which of these do you see evident in your life? Which do you see evident in your spouse's life?
5. Which fruit is needed in your life to make your marriage better? Sean mentioned some things we can do to grow spiritually. What are you doing well right now? What else do you feel you should try to adopt?
6. What are your thoughts about growing together spiritually? What have you tried? What's gone well? What hasn't?
7. Sean said, "The closer we get to the One, the more we become one." Where have you seen this lived out? Where have you seen a couple's individual growth lead to growth in the marriage?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

-Galatians 5:22-23