

Marriage Matters

MARINERS CHURCH | NOVEMBER 2025

Next Steps

• Seek the Good •

Nov – Dec



• Life Group Finder •

opens in January



• Rooted •

begins the week of
January 25



• Marriage Matters •

January 17



Deeper Empathy

The ability to put yourself in the shoes of another person, to see from their perspective, is precious & rare. Even in marriage.

When a spouse accurately understands their partner's situation, feelings, and motives, the following happens:

- Conflicts are curbed
- Intimacy increases
- Misunderstandings are few and far between
- More laughter, less bickering
- More care & comfort
- Fewer hurt feelings
- More fun
- Less judgmental, more perceptive
- More patience
- More forgiveness
- An abundance of grace and gratitude
- MORE LOVE

— *Helping Couples* by Drs. Les & Leslie Parrott & Dr. David H. Olson

Prescription for increasing emotional intimacy:

10 minutes a day of *quality* conversation

OC's Must-See Christmas Lights

Grab your spouse, bundle up, and take a festive stroll under twinkling lights—it's a perfect way to connect, laugh, and add a little Christmas magic to the season.

- **Snoopy House**
📍 Costa Mesa City Hall
- **Santa's Village**
📍 Irvine Park Railroad
- **Night of Coastal Lights**
📍 Fashion Island, Newport Beach
- **Holiday Light Show**
📍 The District, Tustin
- **Fire & Lights Festival**
📍 Newport Dunes Waterfront Resort
- **Holidayz at the Park**
📍 Irvine Great Park
- **Candlelight Walk**
📍 Heritage Hill Historical Park, Lake Forest
- **Holiday Lights**
📍 Dana Point Harbor



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marry + bright

Holiday Date Ideas

Sleigh your date nights this season and make the most wonderful time of the year memorable with these festive activities with your spouse:

- **Christmas movie marathon:** Cozy up with blankets and watch your favorite holiday films.
- **Bake-off:** Compete to see who can make the best Christmas cookies or bake together.
- **Hot Chocolate Bar:** Create a DIY hot chocolate station with various toppings to choose from or make your own apple cider
- **Wrap presents together:** Put on some music and make wrapping presents a fun, shared activity.
- **Volunteer:** Give back by volunteering together at Mariners.
- **Build a gingerbread house:** Have a friendly competition to see who can create the most creative gingerbread house.
- **Create a Christmas playlist** and karaoke your hearts out

Cuddles, Cocoa, Questions

Cozy up with your cutie and a cup of cocoa and ask these questions:

1. If our life together had a soundtrack, what would the opening song be?
2. What's a small, silly habit of mine that secretly makes you smile?
3. If we could teleport anywhere for dinner tonight, where are we going?
4. What's something we used to do that you'd love to bring back?
5. If we swapped personalities for a day, what would be the funniest outcome?
6. If you could gift us a superpower as a couple, what would it be?
7. What's one adventure you hope we'll laugh about when we're old?
8. What do you think is our most underrated strength as a team?
9. What's a dream you haven't told me yet?
10. If we were contestants on a game show, what would we win?
11. What's a question you wish I asked you more often?

Contact the Marriage Team at marriage@marinerschurch.org
with any questions about our ministry, getting marriage help, or ways to serve alongside us!

our marriage matters

Notes

