

# START HERE



In Andy Stanley's message series "Staying in Love" he reminds us that falling in love is easy, but staying in love requires a plan. So Great Daters, we've provided that plan. It revolves around different movie genres and the unique things that make your life together meaningful.



Love is a verb and verbs involve action so grab your spouse, run off to your favorite food joint, and kick off your date with an appetizer. On the way, discuss what stunt you would love to do if you were starring in a movie:

- Blow something up
- Race in a high-speed car chase
- Jump off a skyscraper

Once you've ordered, pick your favorite hero or heroine from an action adventure flick and explain what attracts you to this character.

What was the first thing you noticed about your spouse?

How did you first attract your spouse's attention?

What do you do now to keep your spouse's attention?

\*\*Remember, it's still early in the date, so let's keep your answers rated PG!

I love it when my spouse \_\_\_\_\_!  
(Fill in the blank with an action sentence.)



Romance begins when you value the needs of your true love above yourself. Romantic comedies are full of heroes and heroines navigating life's obstacles together with lots of laughter.

Go ahead and order your entrée, or pack up and go to an entirely different restaurant or drive-thru for your main course. Remember to ask your spouse what he/she would like to eat (even if it's not your favorite) and choose that option!

- What is your first memory that involves laughing together?
- What is your most embarrassing moment as a couple?
- What qualities captured you from the beginning about your spouse?
- What qualities do you love the most today about your spouse?

What song best describes your romantic history together?

- Firework by Katy Perry
- Once in a Lifetime by Keith Urban
- Faithfully by Journey
- Let's Get It On by Marvin Gaye





Your ability to stay in love has as much to do with the condition of your heart as it does with the behavior of your spouse. Over dessert, let's tackle the realities of married life. Order each of your favorite sweet treats to share. If you need a change in location, run into your favorite corner store and grab your spouse's favorite candy bar or pack of gum. Or go ahead and splurge and get both!

What season of your life together has drawn your hearts closer to each other?

What strengths does your spouse bring to your relationship?

If your married life were a documentary, what would people be surprised to know about your story?

Our life stories sometimes surprise us with salty twists, sweet turns, and even a rocky road along the way.

If your spouse were a dessert, which one would describe him/her best?

**Crème Brûlée:** protective outer shell and sweet underneath

**Chocolate Molten Lava Cake:** an open book, nothing held back, it all oozes out

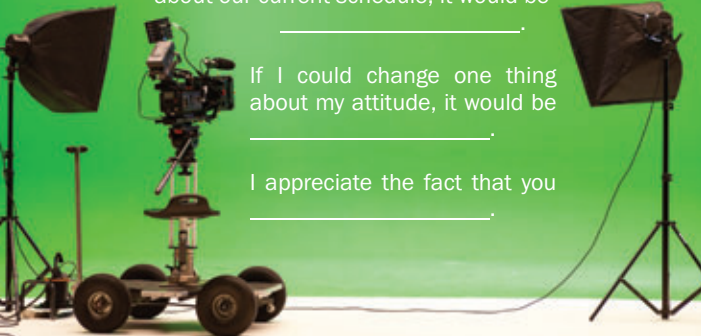
**Vanilla Ice Cream:** what you see is what you get, consistently yummy

**Trifle:** deep layers that you get to know over time

Life isn't always sweet, so if I could change one thing about our current schedule, it would be \_\_\_\_\_.

If I could change one thing about my attitude, it would be \_\_\_\_\_.

I appreciate the fact that you \_\_\_\_\_.



MarriedLife believes that when faced with expectations that don't get met, assuming the worst about your spouse will tank a romance every time. Couples that stay in love tend to believe the best about their spouses' behavior. Sure, some may say they're living in a fantasy world, but we want you to believe the very best for your future!

In the future, would you rather have...

- Cars that fly or teleport somewhere instantly?
- A robot to do housework or yard work?
- An unlimited budget or unlimited time?

Take a few moments to think about your future.

My dream for you is \_\_\_\_\_.

I love that in 20 years we will still be \_\_\_\_\_.

When we are old and gray, I want us to be...

- Sitting on the front porch in rocking chairs holding hands
- Travelling the world together always looking for a new adventure
- Serving others more than we serve ourselves
- All of the above

For the duration of the ride home, take turns answering the following question over and over: Someday I just might like to ...

Well Great Daters, that's a wrap! Finish your date at home by snuggling on the couch, popping in a movie, and letting romance take its course...oh, yeah!

