

Greet One Another

Pastor Barb & Vince

Scripture

Thought

“Greet one another with a kiss of love. Greetings to all of you who are in Christ.” [1 Peter 5:14]

We are starting this devotional with a really simple tip: How we greet one another is important. The definition of greet is “(of a sight or sound) become apparent to or be noticed by someone on arrival somewhere; a sign or welcome or recognition to someone on meeting.” When our kids were young, I was very intentional about how we would greet Vince when he came home from work. We would check the clock periodically throughout the day and do an informal countdown of sorts, building anticipation for his arrival. By the time he came through the door after a day at work, he had multiple tiny bodies all launching themselves at him with giggles and adoration. Sometimes there were tears of joy and cheers so loud that if you did not know better, you would have thought the Beatles had time traveled to our home and that screaming fans awaited for the concert of a lifetime, not just four kids who could not wait to see their dad. I did that for a few reasons. Some were selfish! It meant he would be home again, and I could perhaps use the bathroom without little people trailing behind me for five minutes. But also, because we wanted him to know that we missed him while he was gone, and that we appreciated all that he did for us by working hard to provide, and that we were so glad that he was back with us. If I'm honest there was a season in our marriage it was hard for me personally to get excited about his arrival, whether it was from a day away or a few weeks away. But even in that season I decided we wouldn't waiver from the pattern because deep down I believed that how we greet one another is important!! Why? Because regardless of your personality type, we all want to be noticed by someone, preferably our spouse. To this day we still all make sure to take the time to acknowledge each member of the family as they come home, and when Vince gets home it is still a hug from each of our kids and a kiss from me.

This may seem like a small insignificant thing - but here's a secret to an amazing marriage -it is the small things that will make or break your marriage. The little daily acts of kindness, the soft responses when anger could have been an option and choosing to greet each other with a kiss - they all add up to the big things like trust, honor, respect, and admiration.

Action Step

How do you greet each other? Is it with indifference, a cold shoulder? Do you barely notice when you see your spouse after time apart? If so, decide today that is going to change. Take a moment to repent if you acknowledge that you have not been intentional about greeting one another with love and tenderness and kisses. Then actually choose forgiveness and commit to change. Let go of the past and create some new habits. Every day, starting now, be intentional about how you greet one another. The bible says to greet one another with a kiss of love. Make it a part of your relationship - kiss often and always start the day with a kiss (even if they are still fast asleep) and when you see each other again after time apart, be sure to greet one another with a kiss. It may feel weird at first and there will be days that you will not “feel like it” but do it anyhow and the benefits will start to show themselves over time. That kiss of love says I missed you, I appreciate you and I'm so glad to be with you again. Happy kissing

Prayer

Lord, help me to show my love and appreciation through something as basic as how I greet my spouse. Help me to develop patterns of appreciation and recognition daily. If I have been cold or indifferent, please forgive me and help me to change. Let your grace empower me to change. Help me to be thankful as well when my spouse greets me with tenderness and love. Help me Lord in Jesus Name.

Other Verses

Romans 16:16, 1 Cor 16:20, II Corinthians 13:12

P.S.

When you kiss your heart beats faster resulting in more oxygen reaching your brain thus making you smarter!!!

Day 1

