

Dimensions of Dialogue



Dan ♥ Karen Gorzynski



Dialogue With Young Family



Strategy 1

Divide and Conquer, but Don't Disconnect



Divide...

- ♥ Write at separate times according to your individual schedule
- ♥ Write EVERY DAY
- ♥ Have a “fall back” question in case you end up without one
- ♥ It's ok to write on different questions!

“Fall Back” Questions

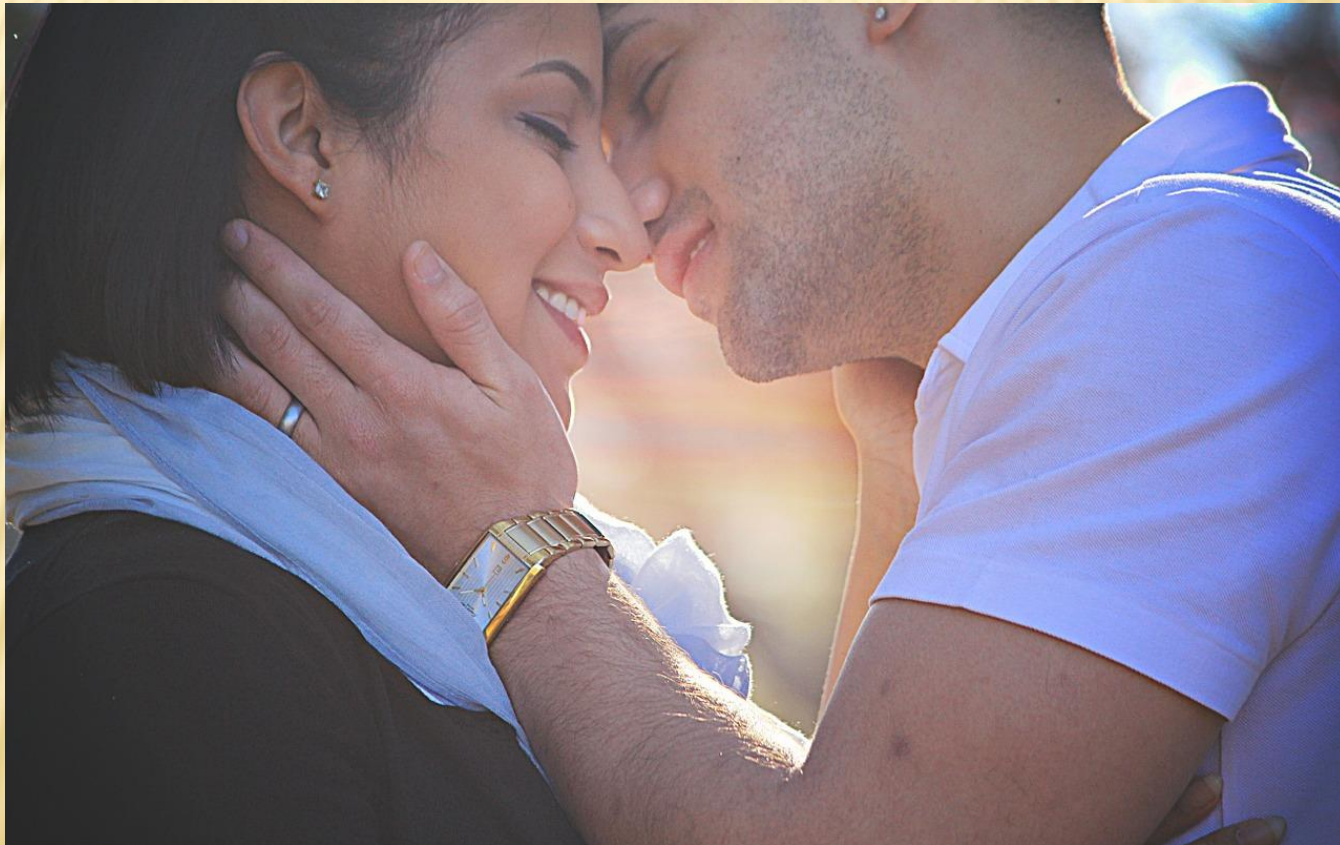
- ♥ My strongest feeling today was... DILD
- ♥ Today I wish you had seen _____. Sharing this with you, I feel _____. DILD
- ♥ I love you today because _____. Thinking of this, I feel _____. DILD

... and Connect

- ♥ Reconnect with your verbal dialogue
- ♥ If you do not get to share one day, make sure you still write the next day
- ♥ You can even share on different questions!
It's the FEELING that matters.

Strategy 2

Put your spouse on your “To Do” List!



The To-Do List

- ♥ Life will eat up every available minute you give it. Your “couple time” is precious and you must protect it.
- ♥ Your marriage must come BEFORE the kids. It is the cornerstone of your family.
- ♥ You have to SCHEDULE time for dialogue... it won't just “happen”.
- ♥ Same for date nights, romance, and love making.

Strategy 3

Don't beat yourself (or each other) up!



No guilt trips allowed...

- ♥ You WILL mess up... and that's OK.
- ♥ Curve balls happen... especially when there are kids on the pitcher's mound.
- ♥ "Tomorrow" is nearly here...
- ♥ Set realistic expectations.

Table Question

What specific behaviors can we adopt as individuals or as a couple to develop the habit of WRITING every day?

Using Dialogue as a Tool for Decision-Making



Pat and Bill Beckett

Who We Are



Dialogue & Decision-Making

- ♥ Dialogue as a decision-making TOOL
- ♥ St. Ignatius of Loyola – author of “The Spiritual Exercises” – 1548
- ♥ Developed a method of discernment upon which the ideas in this talk are based
- ♥ Definitely not a literal interpretation, but our own attempt to develop ways to seek God’s will in our own lives



The Ignation Method - Guiding Principles

“In making a choice or coming to a decision, only one thing is important, to seek and to find what God calls me to at this time of my life.”

Exercises, Paragraph 169

Assumption: The choice is between two GOOD things as far as direction given by scripture and the Church.

NOT good vs. evil

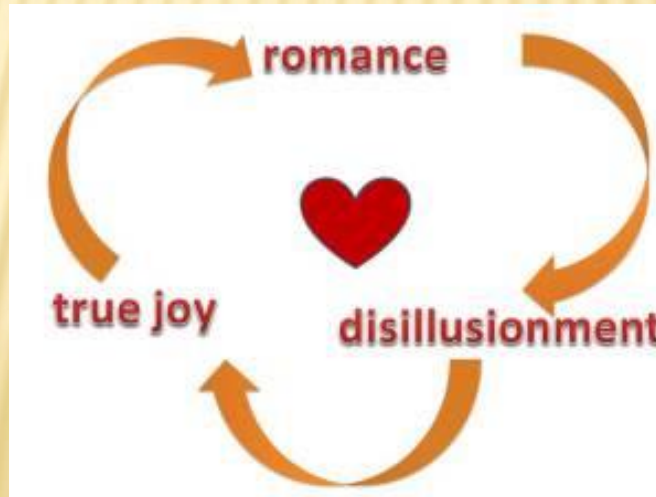


The Ignation Method - Guiding Principles

Never make a decision during times of “desolation”.

In ME terms, “disillusionment”

“In a time of desolation, never make a change; but be firm and constant in the resolutions and determinations before the decision.”



Exercises, Paragraph 318

The process for making a decision

- ♥ Clearly describe the situation and decision.
- ♥ Try to be like a balance in equilibrium – not tending toward one side or the other.
 - ♥ Have an attitude of “**holy indifference**” having no preference but God’s will in the decision.
- ♥ Pray for enlightenment and then use your reason to weigh the advantages and disadvantages. Listen to the way your spirit responds to the lists you have made.
- ♥ Turn to God and ask for confirmation.



Practical steps using dialogue as a tool

- ♥ Clearly describe in writing the situation and decision.
- ♥ Pray together for an attitude of “Holy indifference”
- ♥ Each separately make a list of the advantages of the decision
- ♥ Write a love letter on the advantage that elicits the strongest feeling
- ♥ Dialogue on the strongest feeling between the two of you
- ♥ After dialogue, discuss further the advantages that each one listed

Practical steps using dialogue as a tool

- ♥ Repeat the process for the disadvantages
- ♥ If desired, use scripture dialogue or other related questions that seem appropriate
- ♥ Make the decision based on your dialogues, discussions and other gathered data
- ♥ Dialogue on your feelings about the final decision
- ♥ Share your decision making process with a spiritual advisor or trusted friend

Dialogue & Decision-Making

Discussion Questions:

- ♥ Are you looking at any current decisions that might benefit from using the decision making process outlined here?
- ♥ What is most difficult for you when making decisions as a couple.
- ♥ Describe a decision you made together and how it has impacted your life.

Dialogue Through The Years





John 13:34-35

*“A new command I give you:
Love one another.*

*As I have **loved** you, so you
must **love** one another. By this
everyone will know that
you are my disciples,
if you **love** one another.”*

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

ould the flames,^e but have not love, I gain nothing. my body to the God has

every Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁶It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. ⁷Love never fails. But where there are

prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we

1971-1973

Marriage counseling.....
because sometimes a
spouse needs to hear a
trained professional tell
them they're a pain in
the ass to live with.

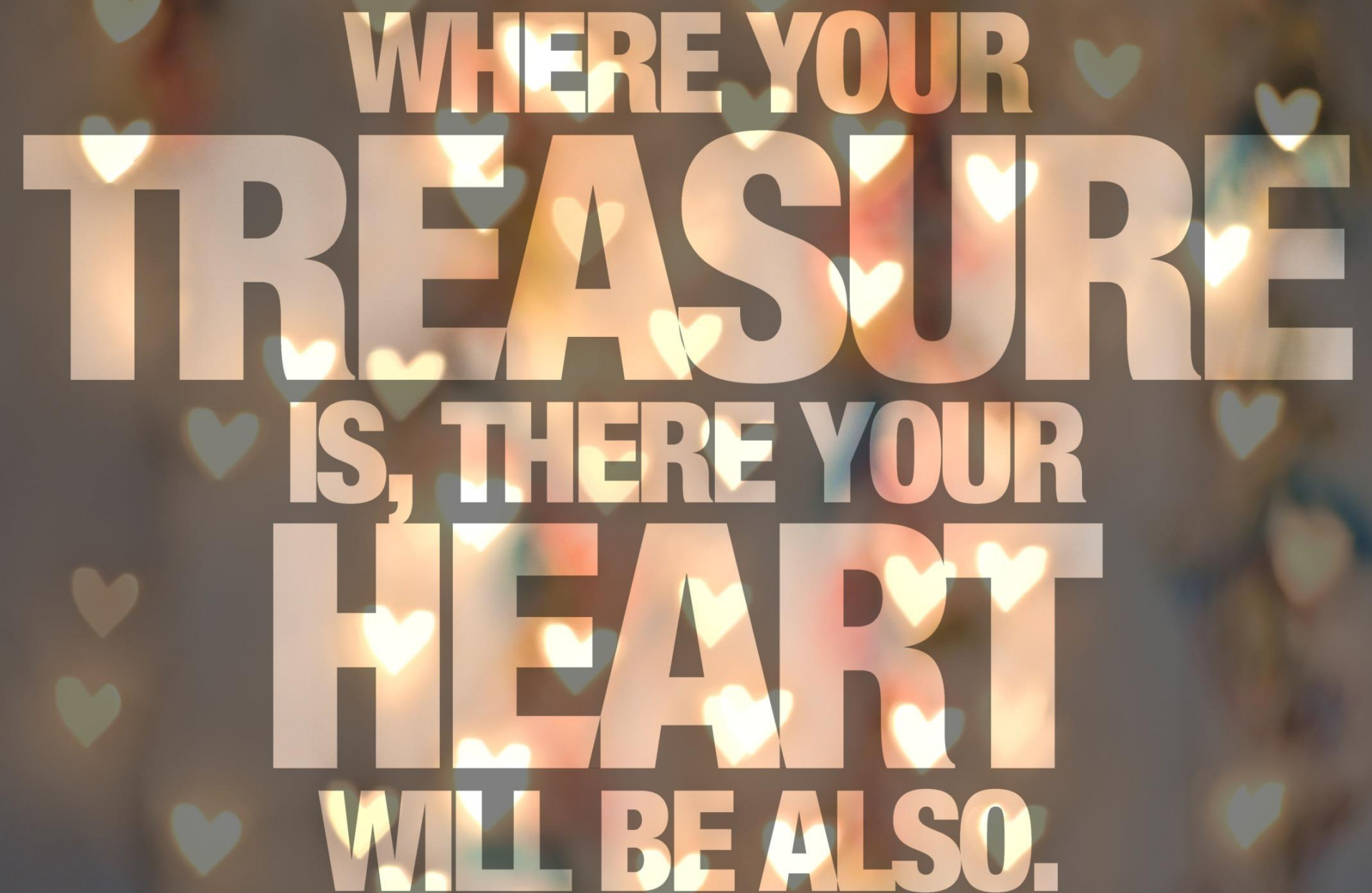


1990



WEDS

Write • Exchange • Dialogue • Select



WHERE YOUR
TREASURE
IS, THERE YOUR
HEART
WILL BE ALSO.

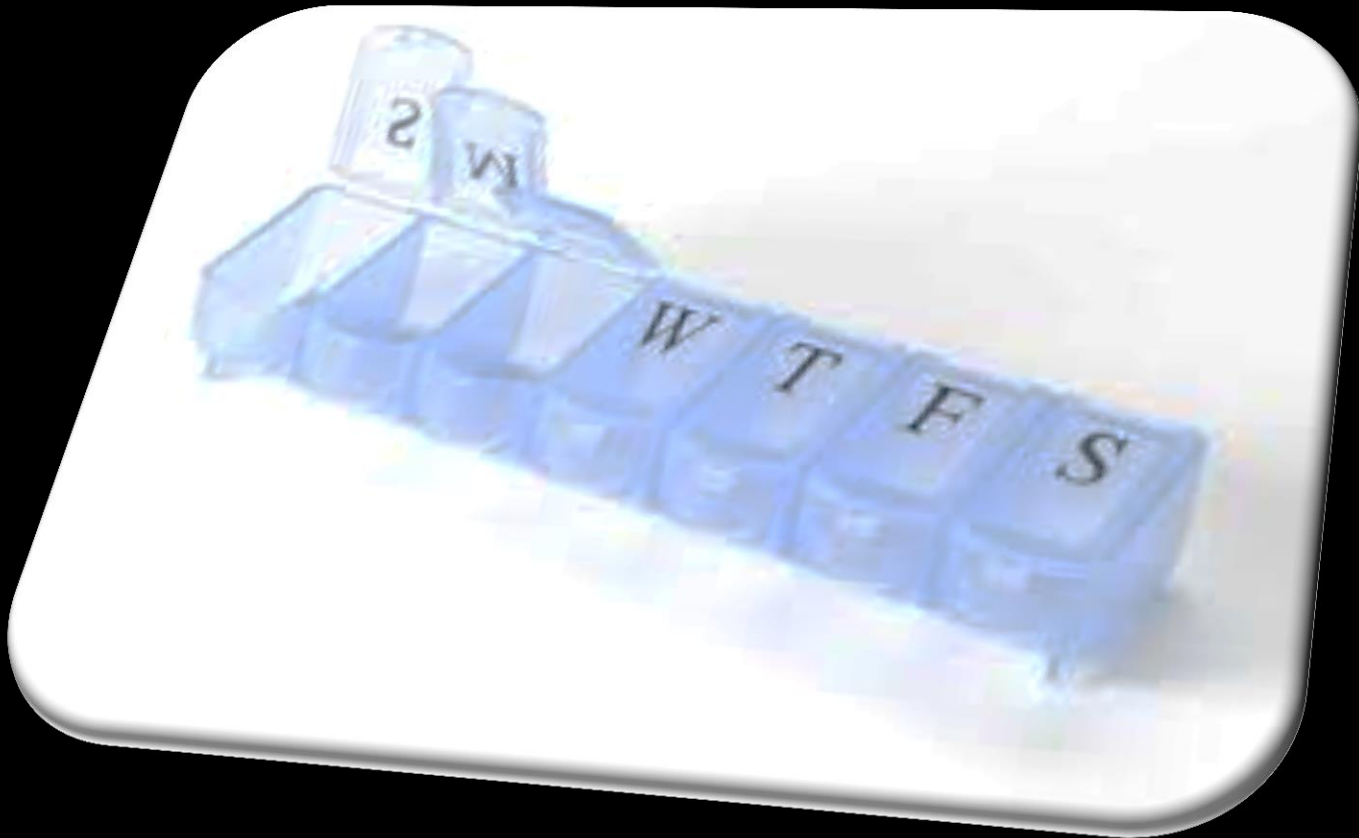
LUKE 12:34

Dialogue Question

How do I feel about making
Daily Dialogue a priority in
our relationship?

Daily Dialogue

*The Perfect Prescription for a
Healthy Relationship!*



Dimensions of Dialogue

Thank you for coming!!

