



Conversation Starters

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of the PARKS

Date Night Conversation Starters

Finally, it's date night! The babysitter has shown up on time, you've given the kids the "best behavior" pep-talk and a goodnight kiss. You escape into the car and do your celebratory dance to no kids, no work, and no distractions. You've been looking forward to a night of romance, fun, and laughter. Maybe it's long overdue.

You settle into the booth at your favorite sushi restaurant, but halfway through the Volcano tuna roll, you realize all you've been talking about so far is the kids, their upcoming schedule of events, and their messy rooms. That's when it occurs to you ... Is this really all we have to

talk about? Not that discussing about our kids isn't important, but how often do we lose the meaning of date night and let it end up being just like any other night? Boring!

Date night is supposed to free you and your spouse from your responsibilities at home and work. The purpose of a date night is the freedom to be fully focused on your relationship with each other without distractions - reconnecting in the midst of the chaos of life.

*Kari and I learned it the hard way, so we have a little reminder to help us keep our date night **FUN**:*

F

Forget the deadlines, schedule, grocery list, and budget discussions for another time. It's best for your relationship to schedule in advance a "planning" time to have those talks. It sets the agenda and the expectations for the purpose of your time together. Unlike your planning time, Date Night is reserved for romance, fun, and laughter.

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Undivided attention to each other. Our main objective of our date nights is to be 100 percent focused on each other. Turn off the cell phone (we leave one on vibrate just in case of an emergency), emails, and especially social media. The world will continue on with you being shut off for a few hours, but if you lose the purpose of date night, it could be the end of your world.

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Never compromise scheduling a date night. Whether weekly, bi-weekly, or once a month, don't allow your finances, kids, or schedules to dictate your relationship. Your kids will thank you, your boss will thank you (research shows that high marital satisfaction leads to higher productivity in the work place), and most of all, your spouse will thank you. I don't think I need to share HOW they will show their appreciation. Let's just say that couples who make date nights a priority are significantly happier and more sexually-satisfied in their relationships.



The key to any strong relationship is communication. With your spouse, that means meaningful conversation. You'll need to dig deep and ask good questions. To help you get started, we have provided 20 questions to help you learn more about your spouse—hopefully having some FUN and laughter along the way.

Conversation Starters:

1

What is your very first memory of us?

2

What is your favorite memory of us so far?

3

Name your favorite date we had before we got married?

4

What was the best part of our wedding for you?

5

What activity do you enjoy doing with me the most?

6

If you could be any super hero, who would you be? Why?

7

Who is your real life hero?

8

If you could be a movie star, would you want to be in comedies or drama?

9

You just won an Academy Award for best actor/actress. Give me your 2-minute acceptance speech?

10

What was your favorite memory growing up?

11

So far, what has been your proudest moment? Why?

12

If you could be a person in the Bible, who would you be (it can't be Jesus)? Why?

13

Name the sweetest thing I've ever done for you.

14

What do you miss most about our life together before we had kids?

15

What are you currently dreaming for your life? What is stopping you from achieving your dream?

16

Describe your dream vacation.

17

Describe how you see us living when we retire. Where do you want to live? What activities would we do together?

18

How do you feel most loved by me?

19

If you could go on a dream trip with your friends, where and what would you do?

20

When you get to heaven, what will be your first question you want to ask God?