



We all have dreams and desires for our lives. We want a white picket fence, 2 kids, and a dog. We fantasize with our fiancé what this life will be like, because dreams are exciting. Somewhere along the way, our dreams become expectations. We demand our spouse make a certain amount of money, have food waiting when we come home, and the list goes on. We believe that marriages suffer because of a spouse's inability to meet expectations. But what gives one spouse the right to demand anything? Is it Biblical to offer conditional love? I will love you, if you do \_\_\_\_\_ is not the proper perspective for a marriage. This is why it is important for us to identify our expectations and baggage. Not doing so can put an extreme strain on the marriage.

1. Are you appreciative of what your spouse does for you? Or, do you expect that they do what they do? How can you better express gratitude to the person you love?

---

---

---

---

2. Do you keep score in your marriage, or do you perform random acts of kindness? What types of things does your spouse love you to do? Be sure to offer these with no strings attached.

---

---

---

---

3. What issues from your past can become a stumbling block for your future?

---

---

---

---

4. How can you go about dealing with this baggage so that it has a smaller impact on your future?

---

---

---

---