Monday Marriage Moment: Love, September 22, 2014 by Cheri Gamble www.cherilynngamble.wordpress.com

But the Fruit of the Spirit is: LOVE

ON YOUR OWN:

- 1. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. Substitute your name for the word "love". What areas do you need to work on in your marriage relationship?
- 2. Think back to when you first started dating your spouse? What initially attracted you to him/her? How has your love for your spouse changed over time?
- 3. When have you felt the most "in love" with your spouse?
- 4. Pray for your love for your spouse to grow. Pray also for the areas you know you need to work on when it comes to expressing love according to 1 Corinthians 13.

TOGETHER:

- 1. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 together. Stop after each characteristic of love and share one way that your spouse has displayed this quality in your marriage relationship. (ex: Love is patient: I remember once when you were patient when I was shopping for a new outfit. You didn't hurry me along at all.)
- 2. How has your expression of love for one another changed over time (for good or bad)?
- 3. Pick one quality of love that you both need to work on in your marriage relationship. Come up with some ways that you can both improve in this area.
- 4. Pray together. Pray for your love life. Pray also for the expression of your love to follow the characteristics you read about in 1 Corinthians 13.

FOR FURTHER FUN:

- 1. Rewrite your vows. Knowing what you do today about marriage and your own relationship, what would you include or change about your vows? Spend some time writing them out and then read them back to one another. You may even want to copy them and put them some place where you can both be reminded of them on a regular basis.
- 2. Look into each other's eyes and sincerely say, "I love you." Go one step further and tell each other what that means.
- 3. Write a love letter to each other at some point during the week. Find a way to sneak it into your spouse's stuff so it is a surprise when he/she finds it. (Or send a love email or text, or post "I love you, have a great day," to their facebook page.)
- 4. Look for ways to show each of the characteristics of love found in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 to each

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other at some point during this week.