

Conversations for Quarantined Couples

(Or Love in the time of Coronavirus)

While these conversation starters refer to marriage frequently, they can be used by couples who are not married as well.

Living on an Oasis

Your Sacred Story

Turning to One Another

Laughing Together

Caring for the Soul of Your Marriage

Your Marriage as a Lighthouse

Your Marriage as a Lighthouse

Every marriage is a lighthouse. Every marriage emits a light of influence and revelation, whether we realize it or not. If you have children, your marriage is the only school of marriage your children are likely to attend, and it will have a powerful influence on their understanding and expectation of their own marriages – just as your parent's marriage did for you.

A marriage is never about just two people. Those closest to you, and those who spend substantial time with you, are under the influence of your marriage. It is daunting and exciting to consider how your marriage can have a positive impact on the world, or your corner of it.

In the Episcopal wedding liturgy, prayers are offered for the newlywed couple after they make their vows, including these words:

Make their life together a sign of Christ's love to this sinful and broken world...

Give them such fulfillment of their mutual affection that they may reach out in love and concern to others.

Grant that all married person who have witnessed these vows may find their lives strengthened and their loyalties confirmed. (Book of Common Prayer)

A marriage's lighthouse has the capacity to reach far beyond the immediate family. Just as a lighthouse serves as a beacon to lost ships and sheds light over dark, troubled waters, your marriage can be a beacon of hope to others and bring light to those in peril. The brightness of your light reveals the health and heart within your marriage.

Conversation:

What do you think your children, or those closest to you, have learned (or are learning) from your marriage about:

- sharing affection
- conflict resolution
- decision making
- stewardship (how you manage/share/value time and treasure)
- gender roles

How do you want your marriage to influence and benefit others?

How can the strength of your marriage reach even those you do not or might never know?

*In the same way, let your light **shine** before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16*