

Transformations

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2017

WE HOPE YOU'RE EXPERIENCING GOD'S blessing in this new year. We know there are couples and families who are rejoicing, and others in situations of suffering. We want you to know we care. Where there is suffering we know there are Christians praying.

Each February, Transformations focuses on love. By this time, our cards and gestures of Valentine love have been given and received. Linda's card from Dave said, "Each day, you give with all your heart and care within your soul ... Each day, I'm more inspired by you to be a stronger and better person to find within myself the power to meet life's challenges."

Dave's card from Linda said, "What I Love About You – You put your heart and soul into everything you do, and you make others feel taken care of along the way... But that

soft sweet romantic side of you... You're an amazing husband." What a gift! We all have love from above to receive and give. Thank You, Father.

—*Blessings,*
Dave and Linda



Feeling Cherished

Do you feel cherished in your marriage? Many wives today know they are 'loved' by their husbands but they may not feel 'cherished.' To learn more about this we asked some men if they knew how to cherish their wives. They didn't know. We suggested they ask their wives if they felt cherished. Their response was they didn't. Even more interesting, most of the wives could not tell their husbands how to make them feel cherished.

However, we did speak with a couple in a marriage in which both feel cherished. Earlier in their marriage they needed help. Personality differences and family of origin issues were causing a lack of oneness and happiness. They have worked through their obstacles and today are best friends and lovers.

Their mutual care has built a strong bond between them. They are honest with each other and they respect each other. They follow through in meeting their mutual needs and wants. This is a marriage in which both feel cherished.

—*continued on reverse*

RSM Opportunities

RSM Celebration Evening 2018 – On Feb. 10th we celebrated God's love and goodness in our marriages and families. We are thankful for all who celebrated with us and for all whose serving made the evening a blessing to many.

OAKS of Righteousness, Ladies and Men's groups are thriving, meeting Wednesday and Thursday evenings for building marriages and families through learning, sharing and growing in spiritual leadership. These groups are an important part of the RSM ministry.

Connect Group: Couples reaching couples – couples come together for fun, fellowship and training to learn how to come alongside other couples to encourage marriage enrichment.

Visit www.rsm-helps.com for more details on upcoming events.

*RSM exists to restore God-centered
unity in marriages and families*

Available Resources

Visit www.rsm-helps.com for more details



Our Lives are Precious —Scott Halse

I'm writing just a few days after Ash Wednesday. During the service, as the minister applies ashes to the forehead, these words are said: "Almighty God, you have created us from the dust of the earth: bless these ashes, we pray, that they may be for us a symbol of our mortality and a sign of our penitence, that we may remember that it is by your grace alone that we receive the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ our Savior." These words are a powerful reminder of the fragility of human life, that it is a gift of pure grace (Acts 17:25).

To be reminded of our mortality is to be reminded of how precious our lives are. Even amidst the dishes, laundry, and homework, there is opportunity to pause briefly and thank God for our husband or wife, for our children, for all the blessings with which God has graciously filled our lives. Being reminded of the fragility of this life is an encouragement to be thankful for everything that God has given us, most especially the love of God revealed on the cross and poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. We pray that RSM continues to bless marriages and families by the power of that same Spirit.



He is Looking Out for You —Dianne Nolson

"For the Lord your God is living among you. He is a Mighty Savior... With His love, He will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs."

What comforting thoughts as I come alongside folks in grief or facing pain over shattered relationships. God is living among you today! He is mighty for you! He is a Savior for you! He calms all your fears! He sings over you as His precious children!

RSM has the privilege of presenting these solid promises to the people who cross our path. Those who turn their hearts to learn from a living, loving, relational God find the unconditional love of the Triune God fulfills every need and gives daily strength to overcome whatever comes their way. Amen.

Impacting Marriages and Families —continued

BIBLE PRINCIPLE:

"in humility value others above yourselves"

—PHILIPPIANS 2:3 (NLT)



What does "feeling cherished" mean? Notice the word "feeling." We say, "love is a choice" or "love is an action." Yes, that's true. When my spouse makes loving choices and takes loving action I feel cherished.

Men say they love their wives, but do their wives feel cherished? To 'cherish' is "to hold dear" and to "feel and show affection for." To cherish your spouse is to nurture them. Cherish also involves being emotionally protected. To cherish is to treasure. To feel cherished is to feel valuable and valued.

The word 'cherish' comes from the French word "cher" which means 'dear.' What or who do you hold dear? The essential point in cherishing your spouse is to know the special ways in which he or she feels cherished. We value each other enough to enter each other's world and know specifically how to cherish each other in ways that connect with our unique needs and wants.

The RSM Team

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