

JUNE 2019



GLEN & SHAWN SOLBERG

*Serving Marriages in Central Arkansas
with Marriage Revolution*

marriage
revolution
turn love around

Are the “Little Things” Really that Important in Marriage?

I was talking to a couple recently that has been married 60+ years. Their last few years have been stressful for them with a physical move of residence and increasing health challenges. But even in the midst of these challenges, here is what one of them said to me:

“Just as I was finishing an email to a friend, the radio played one of our favorite songs. So we had to stop and dance around our apartment! This may seem like a little thing, but after 60+ years, it is still meaningful to both of us.”

Can those “little things” really be that important to a marriage?

Here's what Paul David Tripp has to say on this: “Most of us won't be written up in history books. Most of us only make

three or four momentous decisions in our lives, and several decades after we die, the people we leave behind will struggle to remember our lives at all. You and I live in little moments, and if God doesn't rule our little moments and doesn't work to recreate us in the middle of them, then there is no hope for us, because that is where you and I live. The little moments of life are profoundly important precisely because they are the little moments that we live in and that form us.”



If that is true for Glen and Shawn and for you and your spouse (and we believe it is), then the question I need to ponder is “How am I doing showing love and grace to my spouse in the “little moments”?” Take some time today and every day to intentionally do a “little thing” to show love to your spouse. And email us to let us know what you did so we can celebrate with you!

We NEED Your Help! We are trying to grow our **Adopt-A-Couple Prayer Team** – the group of folks who pray consistently for the couples God is bringing for counseling. If you or someone you know feels a burden to pray and is willing to do that, please contact Glen for more info using the email address below. Thank you!!

Ministry Number: 501-570-6125 • Email: GlenS@MarriageRevolution.com • Website: theSolbergFamily.org
Donate Securely at: bit.ly/helptheSolbergs (case sensitive) -- Be sure to select the Little Rock Office. Thank you so much!

Helping Yourself or a Friend in Need – from Matt Chandler

We hear the phrase “fallen out of love” a lot with couples these days. At times, it may even seem to be an epidemic in our culture. If you are in this place or have a close friend who is, check out this advice from Pastor and Author, Matt Chandler:

What would you say to the person who genuinely feels they've fallen out of love with their spouse?

My heart breaks for people in this place. They've believed a lie and have been discipled by our culture's weak and sad understanding of love, rather than by the robust strength of love as it's unpacked in the Bible. It's important that we compassionately and graciously steer the conversation back to what love is and what love is not. I'm afraid that love is completely misunderstood in our over-romanticized age. It's become a junk-drawer word most often used to describe some fluttery flirty feeling that has no weight underneath. It seems many believe love is simply and purely emotive. And because people believe it's solely emotive, and not tied to an understanding of covenant, then you can fall in and out of it.



I've found it immensely helpful in both counseling and preaching to get back to what the Bible says love looks like and what the historic understanding of the covenant of marriage is. There are plenty of days where our emotions are not where we want them, but our covenant with our spouse should remain strong. The vows we make on our wedding day affirm that we already understand this. We don't say “for better, for health, in richness,” but “for better or for worse, in sickness and in health, for richer or poorer.” This is covenantal language. This is how the Christian is to understand love. We are not under an emotive contract, but a covenant before God to be faithful to our spouse regardless of our emotional state.

LINK: <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/mingling-of-souls-interview-with-matt-chandler/>

June Verses:

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are My friends if you do what I command you.

John 15:12-14

Prayer Requests for June: Thank you for your prayers!

MARRIAGE REVOLUTION: Please continue to pray for the staff and leadership of our ministry. The Lord is bringing opportunities for us to grow with new staff and new offices. Pray that the Lord alone would be leading in all these decisions.

MENTOR TRAINING: Please pray for a Mentor Training we will be holding on June 15th at our church as we seek to continue investing in and equipping the Mentor Team. Pray for vital feedback from this training that will further shape the workshop material we are presenting, so that we can take it other places in our community.

PRIORITIES AND TIME MANAGEMENT: Pray for both Shawn and Glen to seek and respond to the Lord's desire for us 1) setting our daily priorities, and also 2) managing our daily time.

OUR FAMILY IN 2019: Our focus is Colossians 3:1-3 – that all 6 of us would truly seek the things that are above – the things of His Kingdom. And not get distracted by the things on Earth, as we surrender and allow the Lord to live through us day-by-day.

FIRST LOVE: That all 6 of us would never lose our "first love" for Jesus Christ and the pursuit of an active and growing relationship with Him. And that after Him, our priorities would be: Marriage second, Family third, and Ministry activities and everything else after that.

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