

Unified and Unique-

How can we be united and unified in marriage even in our unique characteristics, personalities and giftings? How do we submit, honor, and encourage those unique expressions in our marriages and still remain unified?

Ecclesiastes 4:12 - "Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

A cord is made of 2, 3, or more individual strands. Those strands together create a stronger cord when intertwined. That being said, unique strands don't lose their uniqueness, they just become unified into a greater position than when alone. With this in mind, when you married your spouse, you became an intertwined (3 strand) cord... you, your spouse, and Jesus. This was and is God's design. Satan, on the other hand, wants to kill, steal, and destroy God's design for marriage. We disarm the devil's weapons when we invite the Holy Spirit into our conversations as couples. When we speak with honesty, vulnerability, and grace for and with one another. With this in mind, take a few minutes with your spouse to process this reality by answering these questions with each other.

1. What are your unique differences? What are some similarities? What is a unique characteristic that you really admire in your spouse?
2. What spiritual gift(s) do you each have? (See Romans 12:6-8 & 1 Cor 12:4-11)
3. What is your "love" language and what is your spouse's "love" language? (*Love Languages*: Words of Affirmation, Quality Time, Receiving Gifts, Acts of Service, and Physical Touch)
4. How can you celebrate and encourage the unique gifts & beautiful characteristics in your spouse? Take some time to speak life and encouragement over one another.