

Becoming Soulmates

As I was preparing to write this marriage encouragement, I discovered that there is a wide variety of opinions about soulmates, everything from “There is no such thing” to God specifically picks our soulmate. And soulmates can be related to everything from having similarities in love, romance, friendship, intimacy, compatibility or sexuality. With that said, I want to focus on the “connectedness” spirit-to-spirit between a man and woman in marriage. It’s about the “becoming one” that Father talks about in **Gen. 2:24** “...and they shall become one flesh.”

I’m in complete agreement with those (probably more men!) that would say this verse is talking about the sexual act of marriage. Certainly the Hebrew word for “flesh” definitely implies this! Nevertheless, making love is an important part of the becoming soulmates. As Jimmy Evans, founder of Marriage Today, says, “Soulmates aren’t born, they are made.” **It’s the combination of everything that a man and woman do together as a married couple that eventually develops into this bonding relationship that I’m calling “soulmates.”**

I like what Wikipedia says, “Soulmates usually refer to a romantic partner with the implication of a lifelong bond,,, the strongest bond with another person that one can achieve.” Mere partnerships, however, fall short of achieving this strong bond by not having the lifelong commitment of a blood-covenant marriage! It takes effort and staying together through the difficult times, learning to know and respect each other to become true soulmates. It requires giving and receiving love from each other and sowing into the marriage with your time, money, and energy. Time is an essential commodity in a healthy marriage! We get to know our spouse over time through the shared activities and the fun things we do together. It also requires sacrifices and compromises, like doing what your spouse wants to do even if you aren’t too excited about doing it! For example, Sue loves to go “shoppingggg” and try on lots of things at the store. She likes to get my opinion, so I go along. At first, I was not so sure about the time this might involve, but I found out that I like it and actually help pick out things for her to try on!

THREE THINGS SOULMATES ARE NOT!

Jimmy Evans has three myths about soulmates:

1. **My soulmate will be just like me!** We will know each other’s thoughts and won’t even have to communicate with each other. We will be alike in every way and flow together all the time.
2. **We will always agree on everything!** We will never have any arguments or disagreements on anything. We will never have any problems either.
3. **My soulmate will always make me happy and meet all of my love needs!**

Let me just say, after nearly 45 years of marriage, it ain’t gonna happen! These expectations will only lead to disappointment and frustration in a marriage.

THREE INGREDIENTS THAT WILL MAKE SOULMATES

Jimmy Evans offers three ways to becoming soulmates in your marriage:

1. **Empathy - Understanding and entering into another person's feelings** We need to be sensitive to how we are making our spouse feel through our words (or lack of words) and our actions. We need to put our self into their shoes and see things from their perspective. Ask yourself, "I wonder what it would be like to be married to me?"!! Jimmy claims that five minutes of empathy a day will resurrect a dead marriage!

2. **Generosity – Have the desire to give affection, attention, and communication daily to your spouse. You will reap what you sow!** My practicing those three words with Sue has made a world of difference in our marriage! Let me tell you, it's worth the effort and the rewards are great!!

3. **Priority – We need to put our spouse first in our life.** What you think is important in your life, you will take time for and spend your money on! "*Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*" **Luke 12:34** From the Greek, you could replace the word "treasure" with "treasury" and "heart" with "passion." We need to give the best of our self and our possessions to our spouse. Just like our heavenly Father gets jealous when we allow something into our life that takes His place, our spouse will become jealous when something else in our life begins to replace their rightful place in our heart.

If you want your wife or husband to become your soulmate, then start applying these three things in your life and marriage. Sue and I have continued to invest in our marriage and relationship and it has made a great difference. We feel more "one" in our marriage and have become one of Father's unbeatable teams! We truly feel like soulmates and you can too!

Dialogue Question

What are the best three fun things that we have done together and explain what made them the best.

For each one, describe how it makes you feel when you think about that memory.

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Fun Date Nights

Go to a card shop and pick out some of the cards from the Love, Romance, or Friendship areas and share them with each other in the store. Then go somewhere afterwards and share a drink or dessert together.

Have an impromptu pillow fight (clothing optional!)