



LOVING YOUR SPOUSE

November 18, 2012



*Is it possible, not just to fall in
love, but to stay in love,
forever?*

LOVING YOUR SPOUSE

It's never been easier to fall in love.

It's never been more difficult to stay in love.

Falling in love requires a pulse; staying in
love requires a plan.

Love Wins

Each of us is wired to **fall in love**, but not equipped to **stay in love**.

Because our culture has a really **low threshold for pain**, relationally.

*"A new command I give you..."
John 15:12a*

...love one another"

*"as I have loved you, so you
must love one another."*

*"Submit to one another out of
reverence to Christ." Ephesians 5:21*

*The bottom line, the
cornerstone, the starting block
for lasting love is:*

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

vs. 7
Love

- "always" protects
- "always" trusts
- "always" hopes





*Find the most **generous**
explanation for each other's
behavior. **Believe it.***



*It always **protects**,
always **trusts**,
always **hopes**,
always **perseveres**.*

Every time you go negative and assume the worst, you overtly/covertly/subtly push your partner further away.

When you go positive and believe the best, you create margin.

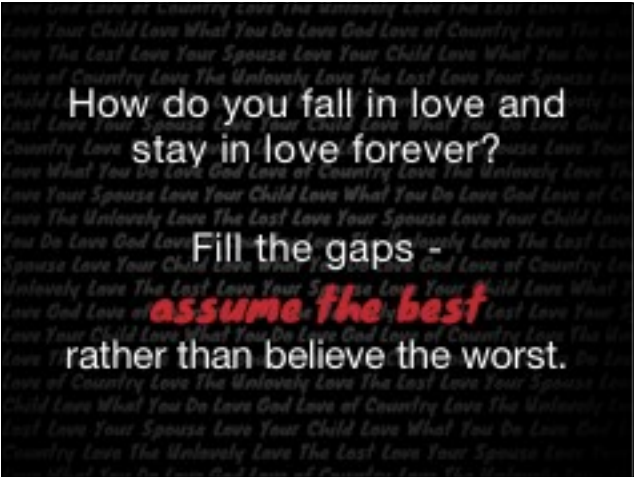


Luke 6:31

“Do for him/her what you wish
he/she would do for you.”



**Fill the GAP between
expectation and experience by
assuming the BEST instead of
believing the worst.**



How do you fall in love and
stay in love forever?

Fill the gaps -
assume the best
rather than believe the worst.