

# I WANT A NEW MARRIAGE

## Big Idea

Every interaction that we have with our spouse either makes a deposit or withdrawal in their love tank. The love tank is an invisible emotional reservoir inside each of us. Pastor Curt gave us three principles regarding the love tank then three ways we can fill our spouse's love tank - which will actually in turn fill our love tank.

**Principle 1 - Everything you do and say affects your marriage. A man or woman reaps what they sow.**

**Galatians 6:7** That means we can sow into our marriage what will change it for the better!

**Principle 2 - Filling your spouse's love tank sustains romance. Proverbs 5:19 NLT** It also builds and strengthens your marriage.

**Principle 3 - Draining your spouse's love tank destroys the marriage. Proverbs 13:12** Pastor Curt said, *"You don't need a new marriage because you've married the wrong person, you need a new marriage because you've embraced the wrong principles; you've neglected the important things that make for a healthy marriage. A drained heart loses hope."*

Your marriage may not be what you hoped for; but there is hope! It is possible to fill up each other's love tank, even if the tank seems empty! Think of your spouse's love tank as having three sections representing the three parts of each of us - body, soul, and spirit. Our goal should be to fill up our spouse **emotionally (the soul - emotions, will, personality, character), physically (the body), and spiritually (the spirit which God breathes into each person)**. PC shared with us the intimacy gates for men and women. He also talked about the 5 love languages which help us understand how our spouse feels love and expresses love. information about this is available on our website.

Don't give up on your marriage but serve your spouse without expecting anything in return. **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:21** Choices lead, feelings follow. Not the other way around.

## Discussion Questions

- What affects your emotional love tank?
- Pastor Curt said "You don't need a new marriage because you've married the wrong person, you need a new marriage because you've embraced the wrong principles. What are the wrong principles? What important things can we stop neglecting?"
- How can we fill our spouse's love tank in each of these areas – emotionally, physically, spiritually?

## Prayer Focus

Pray that God's way for intimacy would be planted and practiced by all people: young, old, single, and married. Ask God to silence the devil's lies and replace them with His truths about intimacy. Ask God to develop, protect, and grow your relationships with others.

## Next Steps

Assess where you are in your spiritual walk and identify any areas where you have intimacy issues. Make a commitment to turn from those ways from this point forward. Don't dwell on the past and beat yourself up -this is a fresh start! There is no one too far gone that Jesus can't make brand new.

## Leader Tip

Encourage your group to point out and repent from any impurities in their life and actively pursue filling their spouse's love tank. Discuss practical ways to do this such as having an honest conversation, intentionally discovering their spouse's Love Language and then acting upon that knowledge.