



Preparing to Share Your Witness

These questions are intended to help guide your reflection as you discern what God wants you to share with engaged couples and what particular details of your story might be valuable to include in your witness. We are happy to help you with this process. Don't hesitate to reach out to John or Beth if you'd like help refining your thoughts or practicing your witness.

Preparing Your Story

- What do you feel called to share with other couples?
- Where has God healed your marriage?
- What were some of the things you learned early on in marriage that were a challenge or a surprise, and how did you deal with them?
- Are you still dealing with them and are you dealing with them differently now?
- What is your love story and how is God a part of it?
- Do you love each other more now than you did on your wedding day? In what ways?
- If you could sit with an engaged couple and tell them the most important thing about having a great marriage, what would you say?
- What do you wish someone had shared with you prior to your wedding, and would you have been open to hearing those words of wisdom?
- What role does God have right now in your lives?

Talking about Tough Topics

Cohabitation:

- What was the difference between being engaged and being married?
- What was the difference between living together and creating a home and a family?
- What was the difference between having sex together and having a sacrament together?
- What was the difference like between waking up next to someone you share a bed with and waking up next to a spouse to whom your obligation is to be Christ, to witness His love, and to help get him or her to heaven?
- What was the difference like between surviving and enduring life and actually celebrating, creating and giving life?
- How can couples authentically live their lives when they are not fully and irrevocably committed to the person with whom they are giving themselves to sexually?

Contraception:

- What were your perceptions regarding contraception before your marriage or even within your marriage?
- What were you taught to believe and from whom did you learn?
- What were your motivations for using contraception?
- What impact did the use of contraception have on your marriage on a physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual level?

- Did you have a conversion of heart in this regard early or late in your marriage? What did that look like?
- Has NFP impacted your marriage? What have been the difficulties? The benefits?
- Were you afraid to let go of the control contraception provides and how did you overcome that fear?
- Was it a 180 degree transition or did it happen over time and with some speed bumps?
- What are some concrete examples of children being the crown jewel of your marriage?
- What role did prayer have to play in this journey?

Pornography:

- Was this a struggle before your marriage? Within your marriage?
- Was there an underlying wound that fueled the use of pornography? Have you addressed that wound? Where are you at in the healing process?
- How did porn impact your image of yourself?
- How did it make your partner feel?
- How did porn impact you individually and your relationship physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually?
- Did you keep it a secret? What encouraged you to bring it to light?
- What are some concrete steps that you took to rid your marriage of porn?
- What role did prayer play on your journey to freedom from porn?

Forgiveness:

- Can you come up with a concrete example of a time that confession brought healing to you personally and/or into your marriage?
- Have there been times where forgiving one another was difficult? How did you manage it?
- Have there been times (before or within your marriage) that you felt like you could not be forgiven or could not offer forgiveness? What did you feel during that time and what did you feel after seeking/giving forgiveness and/or going to confession?
- What would you want to say to a person or couple who is stuck in a sin you struggle(d) with?