

For satisfying marriages, it always comes back to this...

For years in marriage counseling I listened to couples talk about what they wanted their spouses to "do" for them.

The idea was that if the other would "just do" what was desired, the relationship would improve.

So, in my effort to help, I'd encourage one spouse to swallow hard, step up, and give the other spouse what he or she wanted.

Makes sense, right?

Well, the outcome was rarely satisfying... even if the one spouse gave exactly what the other was looking for.

Why would that be?

Because only love satisfies. Everything else falls short.

It's possible for everything to look right on the outside...

... in terms of "helping around the house" or "spending time together" or "having more intimate time" -- and even "praying together"...

But if there's no love behind it, it means nothing.

And... if love remains absent, the relationship is going to stay unsatisfying.

This is why... when it comes to a healthy and satisfying marriage... it always comes back to love.

And by love I mean something more than just a feeling...

I'm talking about having a true affection and genuine desire for your spouse's good -- even if the relationship isn't all you've hoped for.

And I'm talking about valuing your spouse more than anything -- or anyone -- else.

Granted -- any married couple will find this kind of love hard to apply at times.

But here's a secret I encourage you to remember...

The more love you give -- especially in your marriage -- the more it increases.

So, in your desire for a more satisfying marriage, make the choice to 'invest' in your relationship by loving your spouse.

And look to God and His grace to help you.

And if this seems impossible to accomplish, reach out to us.

We're here to help you... so you can experience the kind of satisfying marriage God intends for you to enjoy.

For your best marriage,

Nathan Bell



The Center for Marriage & Family Enrichment exists to help couples and their families experience the blessings of God as they live in keeping with His design.

For more information about our ministry, visit us at: <u>http://fulfillingendeavors.org/</u>