>LONG TERM MEMORY <

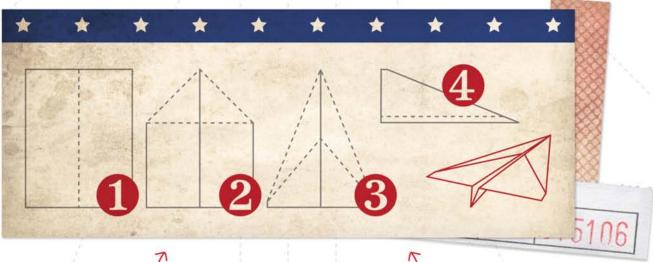
When you both said, "I do," you were in essence saying to your lifelong honey, "I do want to make all my memories with you. From our fiery honeymoon, to our smokin' retirement....it's you and me, Hottie. "



> DINNER AND A MEMORY <

Food and making memories seem to go **hand in hand**. Before you walk **hand in hand** into your favorite restaurant, follow the directions to make this paper into an airplane. On the airplane you will see the questions you are to answer over dinner.

Paper Airplane? Yep. Remember those as a kid?



C Fold your paper like this!

- → Can you remember the telephone number you had when you were ten years old?
- → What was your favorite pet?
- → What was your favorite toy?
- → What was your favorite cartoon?
- → What was your favorite holiday memory?
 - → What was your favorite activity?

- → Outside your immediate family, who was your favorite relative?
- → Who was your least favorite teacher?
- → Who was your best friend?
- → What was the worst trouble you ever got into?
- → What was your scariest moment?
- → What was your funniest moment?

> SWEET MEMORIES.

Where did you share your first dessert together? What did you have? As much as humanly possible, re-create that memory as you talk about the cream-filled center details of your memories as a couple.

springs, aichel plets

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red mounted longitudially Comers

feel but on B/F# side key, upper stace

When We First Met...

The five "W"s of the first time we met. → When was it? → Where were we?

→ Who was there? → Why were we there? → What were we doing?

We clicked because we were:

- → Bread & Butter (We complemented each other)
- → Birds of a Feather (We were kindred spirits)
- → Sugar and Spice (They say opposites attract)



As our romance grew, we were like:

- → A slow-simmering stew whose flavors deepened with time
- → Your favorite sweatshirt, soft and comfortable right from the start
- → Your favorite band, with all the parts in perfect harmony
- → A fast-moving roller coaster with ups and downs, but always a thrilling ride
- → Oil and vinegar...you have to mix it up to make it work

Our Big Day...

Weddings were designed to stop the world and mark the time couples officially start their lives together...forever. The average cost of a wedding in the U.S. is \$20,000. We make a big deal when people decide to get married. Why? Because it is a BIG DEAL. Obviously, one of the greatest ways we ensure these memories is by taking many, many photos. Take the next page and fold it on the dotted lines. It will create a wedding program, designed to help you remember your BIG DAY.

* If you have your wedding photos with you, use them to help remember the day when you went from two Me's to one We.

WARNING FOR MEN: For this section in particular, carefully consider your answers before speaking. Lie if you have to. God would want you to.



PROCESSIONAL - WEDDING MARCH

Ask your man: When you saw me walk down the aisle, what were you thinking?

Ask you lady: When you saw me standing up front with all my guys, what were you thinking?

WEDDING MESSAGE

Do you remember ANYTHING the officiant said during the ceremony?

EXCHANGE OF VOWS

For better or for worse For richer or for poorer In sickness and in health Which of these vows has been our biggest challenge? Which of these vows has been our biggest success?

THE BENEDICTION

Of all the things God has blessed us with, what has been the most surprising?

RECEPTION

What was your favorite part of our reception?

THE BRIDE'S PARENTS

Growing up, what was the best thing your family taught you about marriage?

THE GROOM'S PARENTS

Growing up, what was the best thing your family taught you about marriage?

THE WEDDING PARTY

If you could choase one person in our wedding party to spend a weekend with us, who would it be?

Who has the best marriage of anyone in or at our wedding?

MAID OF HONOR

Has your Maid of Honor continued to honor you?

BESTMAN

Has your Best Man been the best?

BRIDESMAIDS

Which of your bridesmaids has surprised you most?

GROOMSMEN

Which of your groomsmen has surprised you most?

FLOWER GIRL

Guys, what piece of advice would you give to your flowergirl on her wedding day?

RING BEARER

Ladies, what piece of advice would you give to your ring bearer on his wedding day?



(Told on dotted lines to make an accordian style program!)

→ SELECTIVE MEMORY ←

Something happens relationally when we remember. Bad memories push couples apart; great memories pull them together. We can choose to have selective memories, choosing those great memories that make us closer....and happier.

- → We've had so many fantastic times together, but this one stands out in my mind:
- → A perfect romantic night with you includes:
- → Our most relaxed and peaceful time was when we:
- → It still makes me laugh when I remember:
- → I never thought we'd:
- → I remember missing you when:
- → I remember feeling especially close to you when:



→ IN RECENT MEMORY <

Songs seem to have a way of bringing us back to a specific time and place. Fast forward five years from now, if we took a look back, which song do you think would best describe the memories we are making today?

- → "Good Vibrations" by The Beach Boys
- → "Whole Lotta Love" by Led Zeppelin
- → "Livin' on a Prayer" by Bon Jovi
- → "Crazy Train" by Ozzy Osbourne
- → "Boom Boom Pow" by Black Eyed Peas

Tomorrow, download your spouse's choice as your new ringtone for them.

What memories do we want to be creating right now? Is that happening? Or do we need to make a change to make it happen?

>PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY <

Hopefully, tonight will be a memorable night. Go somewhere "unusual," out of your comfort zone, a little bit crazy, and have someone take your picture together. Put that picture in a place where you will see it every day.

Later, join this Great Date on facebook.com/AllInMarriage and post your wacky photo and any comments you have from this Great Date Experiment!



God, time and time again, gives us an incredible model of how He leverages memories to love us. Even when his people had severely pushed Him away, He said,

But for their sake I will remember the covenant with their ancestors whom I brought out of Egypt in the sight of the nations to be their God. I am the LORD.

- Leviticus 26:45

What would happen if you chose to remember your wedding day promises, rather than all the ways your spouse has disappointed you? WOW-what could be more powerful than that?

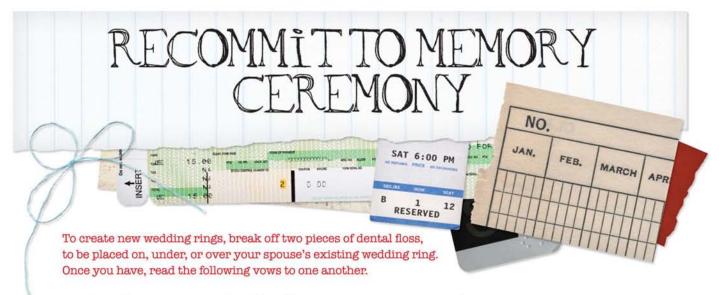
To close out the Big 6 Great Date Experiment, we want to ask you to...

RECOMMIT TO MEMORY

How? We want you to choose a makeshift wedding chapel. The only criteria is that it be close to home, therefore creating close proximity to the honeymoon suite. Oh, yeah! Suggestions for the chapel include your: driveway, cul-de-sac, neighborhood clubhouse, neighbor's driveway, front porch, deck. (Whatever location you choose, if you have children, don't let them see you—they will destroy the moment like a two-year-old flower girl!)

As you drive to your secret ceremony, talk about the memories you want to create as a couple.

Once you arrive at your chapel, it will be time to "Recommit to Memory."



Husband's name, as I tie this minty fresh dental floss ring around your finger I recommit to the promises I made on our wedding day. Please forgive me for the times I created memories that pushed us apart. I recommit to creating memories that will draw us together. You are my superhero now and forever.

Wife's name, as I tie this minty fresh dental floss ring around your finger I recommit to the promises I made on our wedding day. Please forgive me for the times I created memories that pushed us apart. I recommit to making memories that will draw us together. You are my princess, now and forever.

Discuss three goals you have for your marriage in the next year before you celebrate your recommittment ceremony anniversary!

You did it. You have completed the Great Date Experiment. What was the result? We hope it was in part, great memories, because...

Great Memories = Great Marriages



