

HOW TO GUIDE:

Creating an Extraordinary Setting

STEP 1: *Set Aside a Location*

In preparation for your evening together, designate a spot in your home that you and your spouse can enjoy. Remember, this location doesn't have to be just for the hour! It can be a place that you spend the entire evening. Take special care to prepare this space by ensuring that it's tidy, inviting, free of everyday distraction, and comfortable. Some examples include a backyard bonfire for two or a candlelit spot on the couch!

STEP 2: *Prepare for the Practical*

To keep this time sacred with your spouse, care for any logistical details before the night begins. Ideas to consider:

- Childcare for the evening
- Dinner plans for the whole family, together or separate
- Technical preparations for viewing the workshop
- Work tasks and materials wrapped and out of sight
- Phone notifications silenced

STEP 3: *Engage Your Senses*

Make this time with your spouse extra special by considering how you can engage all of your senses! We've listed some ideas below.

- **Sight:** Choose a setting that allows you to view the sunset or a landscape around your house that you find beautiful. Spend a few extra minutes freshening up before meeting your spouse in your chosen location (likely, they will most enjoy looking at you!).
- **Smell:** light a nice smelling candle or wear your spouse's favorite cologne/perfume
- **Sound:** Play soft background music that both you and your spouse enjoy, which can serve as your soundtrack for the entire evening!
- **Taste:** Surprise your spouse by having your favorite snacks on hand during the event, or order in a special dinner or dessert for the evening.
- **Touch:** Fill your space with soft blankets and make a point to engage in a little extra PDA.

STEP 4: *Clear Your Head*

Plan to meet your spouse in your designated location at least ten minutes before the workshop, gifting yourself a few minutes to relax, breathe, and transition.

STEP 5: *Stay Flexible*

There's bound to be details surrounding the evening that don't go as planned- and that's okay! Reframe your perspective to see interruptions as opportunities. Lean into unexpected moments, looking for ways the Lord may be inviting you into a deeper relationship with Him.

