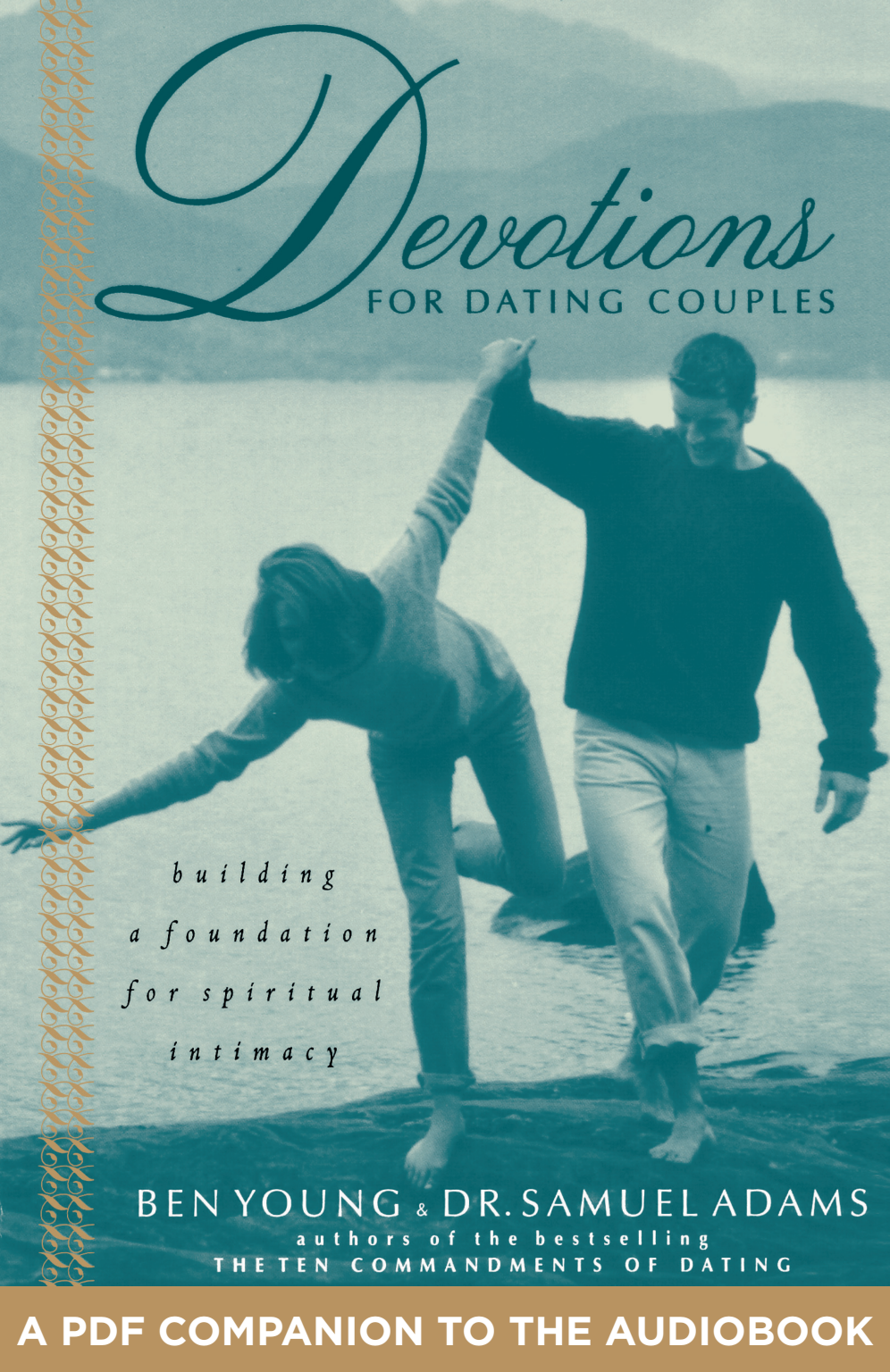


A photograph of a man and a woman playing in shallow water. The man is standing and holding the woman's hand, lifting her leg. The woman is leaning back, with one leg on the ground and the other in the air. They are both smiling. The background shows a calm body of water and distant hills under a soft sky.

Devotions

FOR DATING COUPLES

*building
a foundation
for spiritual
intimacy*

BEN YOUNG & DR. SAMUEL ADAMS

authors of the bestselling
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF DATING

A PDF COMPANION TO THE AUDIOBOOK

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WEEK ONE

Love



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Are you ever tempted to elevate your partner or your love relationship over God Himself?
2. How can your partner challenge you in your relationship with God to keep it first and foremost?
3. What can you do to exhibit a more godly form of love toward your partner?
4. How can you inspire each other to express a genuine form of love toward others?
5. Are you more spiritually in tune or motivated as a result of your relationship together? Are you drawn closer to God? Why or why not?
6. Which devotional from the last five days on the topic of love was most inspiring or convicting for you? Do you have any other strong feelings or reactions from this week's topic?

WEEK TWO

Grace



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What have you discovered to be most meaningful concerning the subject of God's grace?
2. Have you found yourself living life based upon the performance trap?
3. Discuss with your partner how he or she might encourage you to live life with a perspective of grace.
4. Talk to each other about the difference between cheap grace and free grace.
5. How can your partner inspire you to maintain focus on grace instead of works?

WEEK THREE

Prayer



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How would you evaluate your prayer life? Do you begin and end each day with prayer? Do you pray continually throughout the day? Share your answers with each other.
2. Everyone struggles with the discipline of prayer. It's a universal experience. Discuss your difficulties with prayer. What are the barriers and hindrances you seem to encounter?
3. How would you assess your ability to be authentic and real before the God of the universe?
4. Talk to each other about your view of God. Do you see Him as an angry older man in the sky? Do you view Him as a passive, distant grandfather in the outer cosmos? Or are you able to approach Him as He really is—a loving heavenly Father who is intimately involved and concerned about every detail of your life? Discuss your views.

5. How can you pray for each other? Do you share your prayer needs?
6. Have you committed this relationship to prayer? Have you asked God to show you how you can serve Him together? Have you asked God about what may be lacking, harmful, or unhealthy in your relationship? Talk to each other about how you might use the discipline of prayer to enhance the relationship.
7. Praying together is one of the greatest catalysts for intimacy in marriage. Would you and your partner be willing to start praying together as a couple? Discuss whether you are ready for this level of commitment.

WEEK FOUR

The Word



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Do you have a regular time and place for meditating on God's Word?
2. How can you inspire each other to maintain regular study of Scripture?
3. What is your greatest barrier to studying God's Word?
4. Discuss with each other your particular approach to "renewing your mind" with the Word.
5. Talk with your partner about the difficulties you've experienced in discovering the will of God. How does your view of Scripture help you discern God's will?
6. What else can you share with your partner concerning this topic?

WEEK FIVE

Simplicity



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Do you long for a life of simplicity?
2. What's your version or interpretation of Matthew 6:33 ("Seek ye first the kingdom of God . . ." [KJV])?
3. How can you encourage each other in your priorities and perspectives?
4. What can you do, practically speaking, to simplify your life or your relationship?
5. Would you consider going on a personal weekend retreat to reestablish your priorities and perspectives?

6. Talk about your struggles with money, materialism, greed, and lust for more. Is there anything that you seem to idolize?
7. How can you inspire each other toward a life with greater simplicity?
8. How would you want to simplify your relationship?
9. What would you suggest in order to accomplish a greater degree of simplicity?
10. How could the discipline of simplicity in your life enhance your relationship together?

WEEK SIX

Forgiveness



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What have you found to be most helpful about this week's devotional regarding forgiveness?
2. How would you evaluate yourself in terms of having a spirit of forgiveness? Do you find that it comes naturally? Is it difficult?
3. Discuss with your partner the idea that *forgiveness is freedom*. Can you think of any examples from your past where this was true for you?
4. Do you need to forgive people in your life?
5. What about your dating partner? Are you holding on to any hurts or offenses that you need to acknowledge and let go of? Take some time now and clear the air between yourselves.

WEEK SEVEN

Community



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Are you and your partner a member of a local church? If not, why not?
2. Discuss your past experiences with church.
3. Discuss your fantasy of the ideal church in order to clarify the things that you value most with the understanding that there is no "perfect" church this side of heaven.
4. Discuss what you believe to be the greatest benefits of being involved in a community of fellow believers.

5. Have you developed the close, intimate kinds of relationships that allow you to be encouraged, supported, and even challenged?
6. Do you know what your spiritual gifts are? Are you exercising these gifts?
7. Was there anything else from the lesson this past week that you have a strong reaction about? Feel free to discuss.

WEEK EIGHT

Purity



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How do you define *purity*?
2. Discuss how you feel about the issue of purity.
3. What are your convictions regarding the need to maintain purity within your relationship?
4. Are you satisfied with your physical boundaries and your method for controlling your passions within this relationship?
5. Have you ever discussed your need for guidelines or boundaries within this arena?

6. Are you in need of God's forgiveness and grace concerning this area of your life?
7. Do you, as a couple, need to confess your past indiscretions and seek God's cleansing?
8. If necessary, would you be willing to change your level of physical contact for the health and stability of your relationship?

WEEK NINE

The Spirit



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What is your history concerning the Holy Spirit? Did you grow up with an adequate understanding of His role and function?
2. Could you share with your partner a time when you felt a strong sense of the Holy Spirit's presence? Maybe you felt a real peace, comfort, or courage in the face of difficult circumstances. Discuss this particular time when you felt Him working in your life.
3. What is your interpretation of "being continually filled" with the Spirit? How would you explain this process for you?
4. What is your reaction to the "spotlight" analogy?
5. How can your partner help you become more aware of the presence and function of the Holy Spirit?
6. What else can you share with each other concerning this topic?