



This week:
Romancing the Wife

TRAINING FOR GUYS

Our Father, I dunno what this is all about, but....

Hallowed be Your Name

When you pray that, what do you think you are praying for? Most people think it is something to do with not blaspheming... but it is much more than that.

In Philippians we read "at the name of Jesus every knee should bow" (2:10). The Bible is full of references to the majesty of the name of God.

When you are born into a family you get the family name. It was the same for us when we were born into God's family (John 1:12). We now have the family name. When people look at a Christian they think he is reflecting Christ..and so he is.

So praying 'hallowed be your name' should make us reflect on the way we live our lives. Do we live up to the family name or do we bring dishonour to it?

Not just as an individual, what about your church, fellowship or group of friends. Do you honour the family name in the things you do together and the way you treat others?

We should live our lives to bring Him glory and honour. So that people see us and are led to acknowledge that our God is great. In Matthew 15:8,9 Jesus reminds his hearers of God's complaint against Israel, they had become a people who said they honoured him but their lives said otherwise.

We need to be able to say 'Hallowed be your name' with our lips and live it with our lives.

How do I stop my marriage from becoming stale?

It's so easy, once the honeymoon is over, for life to become routine rather than exciting. As a husband, it's your job to do all you can to keep it exciting for your wife. The key to this is constant surprises and always thinking up new adventures to have together.

That doesn't mean you have to spend a lot of money on doing this. Some guys do that and it leads to problems rather than solving them, because the wife thinks he is just profligate and not being sensible with money.

If you want to spend a lot of money on her once in a while then get the money by

cutting out things you would do yourself (fewer coffees, downloads, beers, etc). Save up for it, it'll be more fun that way anyway.

But simple things like unexpectedly waiting for her outside her work, posting her a letter, doing a household job that is normally hers but that she doesn't enjoy, giving her an unexpected hug or kiss during the day, and so on.

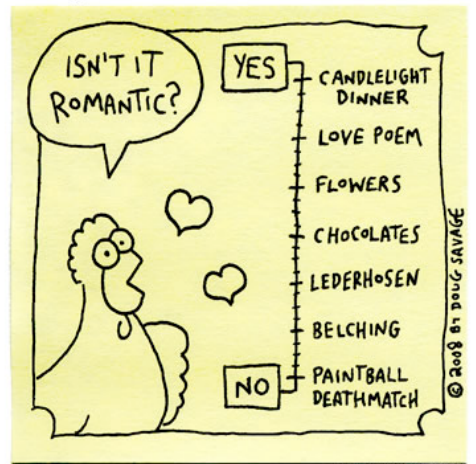
When there is money to spare then sometimes let her know you are taking her 'somewhere' at the weekend but keep the destination a secret...something you know she wants to do but isn't expecting to be able to soon.

The aim is always for surprises. Don't let life together become routine. Let her know you love her by the way you give her these adventures.

But then, as a Christian, there is so much more you can do too. Make sure you pray together and have the adventure of God together. Hold her while you are praying. When you pray together, always thank God for her. Let her know how precious she is to you, but (again) never let the words you use

Savage Chickens

by Doug Savage



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become routine.

You are a unique individual, and so is she. The ways you will do all these things will also be unique to you. Don't copy others, be creative. Develop things that you do together that are special and not shared with others....not just sex, but lots of intimate ways of looking, smiling, touching that communicate deep affection at all times.

You know her, start planning something to make her laugh, smile or just know she is loved. Be adventurous!

Some, but not all, of these ideas came from <http://tinyurl.com/trainingforguys1>



It's been the season for Alpha Males. Weeks of Party Conferences where each of the usual suspects (pictures above) have jockeyed for position as the one most likely to be able to save the country from all its ills (caused by the other lot) and told us how great they are.

Politics is not the place, it seems, for the sort of characteristics outlined in our reading and podcast this week - especially humility. But yet it is vital that Godly people do get involved in politics - either by communicating with career politicians or by joining their ranks. At the very least we should be praying for them, because they do have an effect on the lives of all of us.

Of those who became MPs for the first time in 2010, a significant number are known to be committed Christians. They are across the parties - even Christians disagree on the way things should be done. But we need more politicians who seek to bring glory to God - to hallow His Name - as they debate and vote on the issues of the day.

Genuine Exam Answers

How does Romeo's character develop throughout the play?

It doesn't, it's just self, self, self, all the way through.

Podcast this week:
Colossians 3:12-14

Being clothed in Christ

www.tfgministries.org.uk/podcasts

If you listen to the speeches of the party leaders you will hear men who have passionate beliefs. They believe they are there to do good and to do well for others. You might not like what they say or do, but we are called in scripture to pray for "*all people – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour...*" (1 Timothy 2:1-3).

So consider writing to your local councillors or MP, or even visiting their surgery, to offer prayer and support. Apparently they get more condemning letters from Christians than from others.... that's not hallowing the Lord's name! Pray for them and let them know you are. Then, when there is an issue you want to contact them about they are more likely to listen.

One guy I will just mention from the past few weeks is Boris

Johnson. He got the Conservative conference to applaud Tony Blair, Tessa Jowell and Ken Livingstone for the work

they did in preparation for the Olympics. I can't remember hearing one politician applauding those of a different party before...we need more of it!



www.tfgministries.org.uk geoff.lumley@tfgministries.org.uk