

ON ENGAGEMENT



SEAN PERRON & SPENCER HARMON

Foreword by Heath Lambert

PRAISE FOR THIS BOOK

Too often, we focus a ton on dating and little on engagement. But the season of engagement is an opportunity for preparation, joy, and evident holiness. In this short and readable book, Sean and Spencer walk the reader through a scripturally faithful approach to this unique season. All around us, people want nothing more than fleeting romance and a little fun. This book will help you to build something grander and greater: a six-decade marriage, a union that testifies to the world of a greater love and a greater God.

—**Owen Strachan**, Associate Professor of Christian Theology, Midwestern Seminary; Coauthor, *The Grand Design: Male and Female He Made Them*

Spencer Harmon and Sean Perron have blessed us with an outstanding book to help couples make the most of their engagement. I am surprised how many couples forget and fail to use their season of engagement to grow together in godliness. Harmon and Perron want to prevent such an oversight, and thus they wisely guide couples through every imaginable step of the engagement journey, providing biblically informed principles along the way. From the kind of ring to buy to preparations for the wedding night, this book is brimming with truth for one of the most critical times in the life of a couple.

—**Jonathan Holmes**, Pastor of Counseling, Parkside Church, Uniontown, Ohio; Author, *The Company We Keep: In Search of Biblical Friendship*

Getting engaged is a monumental decision for your life. Therefore it is worth your careful thought before you take any action. This is the type of book that will stimulate your thinking with biblical guidance before you proceed to make such a serious commitment. We invest years of training before entering a profession—why not take the time to carefully read this book before you commit to marriage and get engaged? We believe that carefully reading this book will biblically inform your decision.

—**John D. and Janie L. Street**, Authors, *The Biblical Counseling Guide for Women*

Sean Perron and Spencer Harmon have written a very practical book for engaged couples and, perhaps just as important, for parents and pastors providing counsel and direction to engaged couples. In words that are perhaps not often used with premarital materials, here is a lot of horse sense on often neglected topics. I commend it to you.

—**Douglas Wilson**, Pastor, Christ Church, Moscow, Idaho

In a culture that is consistently and continually failing miserably at marriage, we desperately need someone to show us a better way. Sean and Spencer, along with their wives, have stepped up to the plate and willingly put their lives on display. *Letters to a Romantic: On Engagement* is down to earth, practical, helpful, and rooted in God's Word. Thank you both for writing this book. We highly recommend it!

—**Kristen Clark and Bethany Baird**, Founders, GirlDefined Ministries; Coauthors, *Girl Defined: God's Radical Design for Beauty, Femininity, and Identity*

Engagement is an exhilarating step toward the unknown with someone you're still getting to know. Where can a couple get wise counsel for a season that ricochets, almost daily, between sparkling anticipation and disorienting discussion? The answer is two guys and a book—the very one in your hands! Pull up a chair and spend a few hours with Sean and Spencer. You will come away packed with fresh faith, enriched by practical insights, and uniquely prepared for the magnificent journey toward marriage!

—**Dave Harvey**, Executive Director, Sojourn Network; Author, When Sinners Say "I Do": Discovering the Power of the Gospel for Marriage

Praise for Both Letters to a Romantic Books

Sean and Spencer are two old souls. They have a remarkable amount of wisdom to offer on these topics—wisdom well beyond their years. I wholeheartedly recommend anything these two godly men, exemplary husbands, and exceptional leaders have to say about how they

met their wives, honored them from courtship into marriage, and now lead and love them in the way of Christ.

—**Dan DeWitt**, Director, Center for Biblical Apologetics and Public Christianity, Cedarville University; Author, *Jesus or Nothing* and *Christ or Chaos*

From romanticism, to breakups, to the issue of sexuality and singleness, Sean and Spencer provide us with a significant, biblical word for the areas of dating and engagement. No two areas are more ignored and yet more in need of a clear, concise word from God. These biblical counselors, with rare insight and discernment, lead you through the spiritual steps that will result in healthy, God-honoring, deepening relationships.

—**Mac and Debbie Brunson**, Cohosts of "The Fixer Upper Marriage" Bible Study, First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Florida

Relationships require wisdom. God has given Sean and Spencer remarkable wisdom for their age. Their wisdom, seasoned with plenty of Scripture, written in the form of letters from a friend, is a recipe for real help for couples navigating dating and engagement.

— **C. J. Mahaney**, Senior Pastor, Sovereign Grace Church, Louisville, Kentucky

These books contain the kind of wise biblical advice an older brother or mentor would offer to a young person who is seeking to navigate the waters of romance and engagement. Their short-letter format makes them very easy (and fun) to read. Practical answers are given to the questions young people are most likely to raise.

—**Jim Newheiser**, Director of the Christian Counseling Program and Associate Professor of Practical Theology, Reformed Theological Seminary, Charlotte; Executive Director, Institute for Biblical Counseling and Discipleship

Letters to a Romantic: On Dating and On Engagement are wonderful guides written by two young men who have a lot of biblical wisdom.

Each letter is engaging and very informative. In fact, they are so good that I have five young adults in mind to give them to. Perron and Harmon have done an exceptional job.

—**Martha Peace**, Biblical Counselor; Author, *The Excellent Wife* and *Damsels in Distress*

There's nothing easy about dating or getting engaged. I lurched through the process like most people—fearful, fumbling, and full of doubt. If only Sean and Spencer had written these books fifty years ago! But here they are just in time for you! Make a date with these books before booking a date. The Bible's advice is never dated for those who are engaged in its teachings.

—**Robert J. Morgan**, Teaching Pastor, The Donelson Fellowship, Nashville; Author, *The Strength You Need: The Twelve Great Strength Passages of the Bible*

In these two books on dating and engagement, Sean Perron and Spencer Harmon have given us a treasure trove of biblically based practical information for all unmarried Christians. I am very grateful to God for giving Sean and Spencer the desire and ability to write these two books. They contain information that I wish had been available for me to give to Christians as they thought about dating or engagement. I will certainly have them at the ready to give to Christians who need biblically based answers to the plethora of relevant issues that godly people who are thinkers will have about these topics.

—**Wayne Mack**, Director and Professor, Strengthening Ministries Training Institute; Director, Association of Certified Biblical Counselors—Africa

Sean Perron and Spencer Harmon are full of wise, gospel-centered counsel on navigating through singleness, dating, and engagement. Whatever your season of life, you will find yourself better equipped to guide others and to strengthen your own faith by reading these books.

—**Russell Moore**, President, Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention

letters Romantic

ON ENGAGEMENT



SEAN PERRON
& SPENCER HARMON

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To the Lambert family:

Jenny and I can't thank you enough for your investment in us during our engagement.

—Sean

To John Harmon,

who modeled sacrificial love toward the wife of his youth until the end of his days.

—Spencer

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FOREWORD

You're reading this book because you're thinking about getting married. That is a big and important step. In fact, for most of us, the only decision that is more important than this one is the decision to trust Christ with our salvation. This means that for most people the decision about who to marry is the second most important decision in their entire lives. It concerns the one with whom you promise to spend your life, raise children, share earthly possessions, and experience all the joys and trials of life. It's a big deal.

And you need to be very careful. Let me tell you why.

I have spent a massive amount of time in my ministry doing counseling. Most of that counseling has been with couples who are thinking of getting married or with married couples who are wondering why they got married. Over the years I have noticed a fascinating similarity between pre-marriage counseling and marriage counseling: the topics are the same.

The five most common subjects discussed in marriage counseling are sex, relationships with in-laws, communication and conflict resolution, money, and children and family planning. Pre-marriage counseling is about thinking and preparing for these exact issues before you get married. The most significant

difference between the way these topics are covered in premarriage counseling and the way they are addressed in remedial marriage counseling is that couples are still in a good mood about these issues before they get married. Typically, engaged couples are excited to think about these issues and plan for them, because they are eager to experience them together. When the same issues come up again years after the wedding and require marriage counseling, there is much more pain in the discussion.

So you need to be very careful to take the time to address these issues before they become problems. But right now you're probably facing a temptation that is very common during this time of preparation.

Most people in your position are tempted to spend this season thinking only about the wedding. You feel pressured to focus on planning the reception, reserving the church, and ordering the clothes and food. You need to fight against this temptation. It is far more important to focus on your marriage. The wedding will be over in a few hours; the marriage will endure for years and years.

This book is written with the intent of helping you to cut through the noise of wedding planning so that you can do the crucial work of marriage preparation. The time you spend right now laying the groundwork for your life with your spouse will reap incredible dividends later. The central aim of this book is to help you, by God's grace, to produce the dividends of a Christ-honoring marriage for years to come.

After fourteen years of marriage, my wife and I still talk with joy about the valuable lessons we learned about Jesus, life, and marriage during the months of our pre-marriage preparation. At that time we were shocked at what we did not know and grateful for all the lessons we were able to learn. I know that *Letters to a*

Foreword

Romantic: On Engagement will give you similar joy as you take in the wisdom of its authors.

I first met Sean Perron and Spencer Harmon when they were college students in my marriage and family class at Boyce College. They were young men marked by obvious godliness. In the years since, I have only grown in admiration for them as I have watched them pursue, in a righteous way, the godly women who ultimately became their wives. It has been a tremendous joy over the years to watch as these faithful students became faithful husbands, fathers, and ministers of the gospel. I do not know two young men with more wisdom on these matters.

So shut the catalog full of wedding invitations, close the Google search for wedding cakes, and begin investing in your marriage. Grab your Bible and then turn to the next page of this book to receive the kind of wisdom you'll be talking about with your spouse for the rest of your marriage. The time that you invest now will not be wasted.

Heath Lambert Jacksonville, FL August 2016

INTRODUCTION

OUR STORIES OF ROMANCE AND THIS BOOK

Sean and Spencer

Dear Reader,

It was the day of my wedding. And I was not marrying the girl of my dreams.

If you had told me when I was a teenager that my wife would have seven tattoos and a history in drugs, alcohol, and heavy metal concerts, I would have laughed at you, given you one of my courtship books, and told you to take a hike. My plans were much different, much more nuanced, much more clean-cut . . . much more, well, about me.

You see, it wasn't my dream to marry a girl who was complicated. I never dreamed that I would sit on a couch for pre-marital counseling with my future wife and listen to her cry, tell stories of drunken nights, list the drugs she had used, and confess mistakes she had made in past relationships.

It wasn't my dream—it was better.

Introduction

Many people wouldn't put Taylor and me together. In high school, we probably would not have been friends. Taylor probably would have thought I was a nice, boring, judgmental Christian kid; I probably would have thought she was a nice, lost, party-scene girl who guys like me were supposed to stay away from. People like us, with our backgrounds and histories, are not supposed to meet, fall in love, and covenant their lives to each other.

But everything changes when people meet Jesus. Jesus takes people like rebellious teenage partiers and goody-two-shoes homeschoolers and puts them together in marriage in order to display something much bigger than their own handcrafted, perfectly planned love stories.

Right in the middle of the mess of life, Taylor met Jesus, and he planted his flag in her life. She believed in him, and he transformed her. The woman who spent her life living from one pleasure to the next died, and a new person was born—a new person with new desires and a new heart that longed to please God, serve people, and treasure Jesus Christ above pleasure.

And this is how I see Taylor. She is completely new, completely transformed, and completely clean. This is not because she became a part of a helpful program or because she really "pulled herself together." It's because God, in his incredible, infinite kindness, took Taylor's dark, crimson life and made her as white as snow. He took all of her sins, placed them on his Son, and gave her Jesus' righteousness to wear like a perfect white wedding dress.

In reality, Taylor's story is my story as well. As my wife walked down the aisle toward me that day, I was reminded of how much I did not deserve the precious gift that she was to me. I had spent much of my life singing a self-centered siren song. Nothing about my life cried for blessings; it called for curses

forever. Yet God dressed me in white, put my sin upon his Son, and gave me a heart that loves him.

I love Taylor with all that I am. She is gentle, kind, patient, joyful, beautiful, and loving. I didn't deserve to marry someone like her. I never planned for this, but I'm so glad that I did not get what I planned for.

I'm not sure whether your plans are similar to or different from my old plan. Maybe you are in my old shoes—seeking to control all the factors of your relationships in order to make sure you get the spouse who fits your plans. Maybe you are in Taylor's shoes—transformed by grace but wondering how your history will play out in dating, engagement, and marriage. Maybe you are somewhere in the middle.

God has a stunning plan for you: he wants to put his grace on display uniquely in your life and relationships so that other people will praise him (see Eph. 1:5–6). He wants to put his grace on display in every facet of your life—including your engagement.

Until then, Spencer

Dear Reader,

It took over a year and a half for Jenny to allow me to date her. You would not believe how many times I asked her if we could be in a relationship. My count is thirteen, while hers is at least seventeen attempts. I would have been a complete and total creeper, except that when I asked her to date she said, "No... not yet." Her character and beauty mesmerized me, and I was willing to hang on tight to any ounce of hope that we could be together.

Introduction

We first met in high school and eventually began dating in college. We were engaged for eight months and married at the end of my junior year. We were both twenty-one years old. Our wedding day was the happiest day of our lives, and we simply would not trade marriage for anything.

I would love to tell you that I did everything right when pursuing Jenny for marriage. I would love to tell you that I never blew it and that I always knew what to do in our relationship. I would also love to tell you that I did everything right in my romantic relationships *before* meeting Jenny. But I cannot say all these things.

Jenny and I had many questions. We needed wisdom. There were moments that were complex, confusing, and unclear. In the midst of many dangers, joys, and snares, we needed help. Our help came through the sufficient Scriptures and the guidance of dear mentors who loved the Bible. The help we received, particularly while we were engaged, came from people who were willing to take the time to examine our lives in light of God's Word.

This is why Spencer and I have decided to write you letters. Although our stories are different, the thread of God's grace runs through both. We have experienced the power of God's Word in engagement and believe that the Bible has real things to say to you during this season of your life.

The book begins right before the proposal takes place, and it takes you all the way to the wedding night. There is an intentional order to the chapters, but the letters can also be read individually according to your needs. Each chapter is designed to be short and practical but not comprehensive. Even though we don't know the specifics of your situation, we have made a concerted effort to make the chapters as relevant as possible. It is our prayer that this content will be immediately helpful and tangible rather than overly narrow or rigid. Our wives, Jenny Perron and Taylor

Harmon, have also contributed to many of the letters and have provided their own warm touches throughout.

Our prayer is that your plans for engagement would begin to align with God's plans to glorify his Son in the world. We pray that these letters will tune your ears to hear God's voice in his Word and will provoke many conversations between you, your partner, and godly mentors in your lives.

We are not relational gurus. Quite the opposite. We would be the first to admit to you that when we follow our own wisdom we get lost. We are sinners who are desperately in need of God's illuminating Word in every facet of our lives. We have simply tasted the goodness of God's shepherding voice in our romances, and we want you to taste it too. We pray that you fall in love with hearing his voice in the Bible so that it guides you in engagement—and in every other season to come.

Until then, Sean



THE OPPORTUNITY OF ENGAGEMENT

Sean

Dear Romantic,

You've agonized over whether to date. You've dated. There have been moments of fun and deep joy, and there have been moments of difficulty and hard conversations. You have sought to follow Christ as you've pursued romance, and now the time has come. You sense that marriage is on the horizon.

Your wedding day is arguably the most important day of your life. As you prepare to propose to your potential bride or to respond to a proposal from your potential husband, don't miss the greatest opportunity that engagement has to offer. Engagement is an excellent time to pause and consider what is about to take place.

1. If you are still considering whether or not you should marry the person you are dating, we recommend reading the first book in this series, *Letters to a Romantic: On Dating* (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 2017).

The Opportunity of Engagement

When a couple unites in marriage, they fully give themselves to each other. The wife gives everything that she has to her husband, and the husband gives everything that he has to his wife. Our union with Christ is similar. Through his death, burial, and resurrection, everything that we have (sin, shame, guilt, and death) becomes Christ's and everything that he has (purity, holiness, freedom, and life) becomes ours.

The following quote has stuck with me for several years. It is an old quote from Martin Luther.² On the topic of marriage, he writes, "Now if they are one flesh, and if a true marriage . . . then it follows that all they have becomes theirs in common, as well good things as evil things; so that whatsoever Christ possesses, that the believing soul may take to itself and boast of as its own, and whatever belongs to the soul, that Christ claims as His."³ This is the sweet exchange that Luther is talking about: "If I have sinned, my Christ, in whom I believe, has not sinned; all mine is His, and all His is mine; as it is written: 'My beloved is mine, and I am His.'"⁴

All of our sins become Christ's, and all of His righteousness becomes ours. Many people think of the gospel as only providing forgiveness, but the gospel also gives us the righteous state of Jesus (see 2 Cor. 5:21). His perfect life becomes our life, while our sinful life became His on the cross. This forgiveness and righteousness is obtained only by "the wedding ring of faith."

Your marriage will not be based on the condition of works. No one will submit a list of good deeds at the altar. You will not swap resumes; you will exchange rings. You will become husband

^{2.} See Martin Luther, *Christian Liberty* (1520; repr., Philadelphia: Lutheran Publication Society, 1903) 13–19, available online at http://books.google.com (search for "Christian Liberty").

^{3.} Ibid, 17.

^{4.} Ibid, 19.

The Opportunity of Engagement

and wife by a simple pledge of faith. "Thus the believing soul, by the pledge of its faith in Christ, becomes free from all sin, fearless of death, safe from hell, and endowed with the eternal righteousness, life, and salvation of its husband Christ." As you prepare to take each other's hands in faith, take the hand of Christ by faith. Pledge your life to Him, trusting not in your good works or good intentions but only in His perfect life and saving death.

Christ did not buy you with precious metal but with His priceless blood. Engagement is a wonderful opportunity to ponder the greater privilege of being united to Christ. So before we begin with the details, let's stand in awe with Luther: "Who then can value highly enough these royal nuptials? Who can comprehend the riches of the glory of this grace?"

Until then, Sean

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Have you paused in the midst of your busy schedule and thanked God for how he created marriage?
- 2. Are you currently trusting in Christ *alone* for salvation from sin, death, and God's wrath?
- 3. List two ways that your upcoming marriage points toward the good news of Jesus.

^{5.} Ibid, 18.

^{6.} Ibid., 18-19.



THE COST OF ENGAGEMENT

Sean

Dear Brother,

You are about to propose. You have settled the question of *who* you want to marry, and now you are working on the details of *how* you are going to get her to say yes. These are exciting days.

In Western culture, it is customary for you to drop to one knee and present a ring to your hopeful bride-to-be when you ask for her hand in marriage. In one sense, this is a small detail in the engagement process. It is just a round piece of metal that slips around a finger. In another sense, however, this is a massive component.

The ring signifies a change in relationship status. Your future bride will be wearing *your* engagement ring and no one else's. It is from you to her. In the not-so-distant future, *you* will place a wedding band on her finger. Not only that, but everyone and their mothers will look at this small piece of jewelry. They will ooh and ahh, giggle and gasp at the sight of your fiancée's ring. Photos of this ring will be liked, and statuses will be shared. It is a statement to everyone who sees your fiancée that she is about to become *yours*.

The Cost of Engagement

But now the practical questions begin to arise. What kind of ring should you buy? How much money should you spend? Are there priorities when it comes to ring shopping?

These types of questions are not limited to wedding rings. You will be faced with such financial questions before, during, and after this season of engagement. There are three basic categories that may help you in the days ahead as you are faced with questions about spending money. First, make sure that you and your partner know each other well. Second, seek to store up more treasure in heaven than on earth. Third, don't be ashamed to receive good gifts from God and others.

KNOW YOUR FIANCÉE

When it comes to buying a ring, it is not about you. It is about her. What will your fiancée want? What will make her feel most loved? Not all fiancées are created equal when it comes to monetary possessions. Therefore, it is your job to know *your* fiancée.

Let's take the example of the engagement ring. There are godly women who want a beautiful diamond ring to wear around their finger and display to the world. This isn't necessarily because they are flashy or ritzy. They see great value in having a lifelong token of marital love that represents beauty and value. If your fiancée is like this, she will be sorely disappointed if you can afford a nice ring but decide to go cheap. You want your ring to communicate "I love you and I know you," not "I did the bare minimum to get by."

On the other hand, your fiancée might actually prefer something more frugal. I know women who prefer a pearl wedding ring instead of a diamond ring. They would rather the ring be a symbol of love that isn't defined by earthly riches. They would genuinely prefer to save \$1,000 and spend it on something else.

The Cost of Engagement

If your fiancée feels this way, an expensive ring might actually distract her from the true value that the ring holds. She would want something unique and special and wouldn't necessarily feel loved just because you dropped a lot of cash.

Of course, you don't want to propose to a girl who is going to base her decision on the kind of ring you offer her. If she starts to ask about the karats of the gold when you ask for her hand in marriage, then you'd better get off your knee and tell her that you need more time as well. An engagement isn't based on a ring, but a ring should be a thoughtful, well-planned, and cherished token of love.

I think I paid \$250 for Jenny's engagement ring. (And this was in 2011, not 1911.) I bought a gold ring with three small diamonds that someone was selling on our college bulletin board. Everyone who thought I was crazy didn't really know Jenny—she loves simple. Jenny loves that ring. You can ask her yourself. I could have spent \$2,500 on a nicer ring, and she would have asked why we hadn't saved that money for something else. I knew that finding a simple, beautiful, and inexpensive ring would best communicate my affection to my future wife. But you aren't marrying Jenny. She is taken. You need to find out what your fiancée loves and wants deep down.

These questions aren't pertinent to only wedding rings. You will soon find yourself faced with a myriad of items that need to be purchased for your big day. There will be cakes to taste, venues to consider, and clothes to pick out. All of these things will require money and will make some sort of statement to onlookers.

STORING AND RECEIVING TREASURE

When it comes to these kinds of things, I encourage you to store up your treasure in heaven, where moth and rust will not

The Cost of Engagement

destroy and where thieves will not break in and steal (see Matt. 6:19–21). Your wedding day is *one day*, and that day lasts only twenty-four hours. You don't have to spend a year's salary on your wedding in order to make it special. You don't need silver and gold to reflect God. Jesus loves to shine in things like clay pots and broken vessels (see 2 Cor. 4:7).

But don't be ashamed to receive good gifts (see James 1:17). If your parents want to pour out their love on you with expensive dishes and beautiful flower arrangements, don't be an overspiritual snob. Jesus wasn't. Jesus knew how to receive good gifts. He let the woman anoint his feet with expensive perfume that was worth a year's salary. He created excellent wine at a wedding he attended (see John 2:1–11). It is a good and holy thing to thankfully receive gifts from those who want to give them.

You will be faced with a lot of purchases in the days ahead. Buying a ring is just the beginning. With every investment of your money, be sure to know your partner well, store up more treasure in heaven than on earth, and not be ashamed to receive good gifts from God and others.

Until then, Sean

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Will your fiancée feel loved by a simple ring or by a more expensive ring? Why?
- 2. What do wedding purchases reveal about your hearts? Where do you and your fiancée store up treasure?
- 3. Do you have a hard time receiving expensive gifts from others? Why or why not?



Since 1976, the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC) has been training and certifying biblical counselors to ensure excellence in the counseling room by faithfulness to the Word of God. We offer a comprehensive biblical counseling certification program that is rigorous, but attainable by even the busiest pastor or church member. Our certification process is made up of three phases: learning, exams and application, and supervision.

ACBC has grown from a handful of individuals to thousands of certified counselors all around the world. Now in our fourth decade of pursuing excellence in biblical counseling, we have had five executive directors: Dr. Bob Smith, Dr. Howard Eyrich, Rev. Bill Goode, and Rev. Randy Patten. Dr. Heath Lambert became the fifth executive director in 2013.

Every Christian is called to speak the truth in love to one another. ACBC trains Christians in their gospel responsibility to be disciple-makers and to build up the body of Christ. This training is accomplished through conferences and events throughout the world.

For more information about ACBC and biblical counseling resources, visit www.biblicalcounseling.com.

"Guide others and . . . strengthen your own faith." —RUSSELL MOORE

"A treasure trove of biblically based practical information." —WAYNE MACK

"Make a date with these books before booking a date." —ROBERT J. MORGAN

"Perron and Harmon have done an exceptional job." —MARTHA PEACE

Dear Romantic,

As you stand on the cusp of marriage, you're probably wondering about important topics such as sex, in-law relationships, and conflict resolution. Would you guess that these same issues come up when married couples are having trouble later? So basically, expect to discuss them either proactively with your fiancé now . . . or years into your marriage when they have turned into problems!

Sean Perron and Spencer Harmon, along with their wives, Jenny and Taylor, are here to help you get these conversations started. They have written several letters to guide you through your engagement, from your proposal to your wedding night. Each one is short, practical, and relevant, and contains discussion questions to help you apply it even more personally.

God's Word, and the guidance of mentors who can open it with you, are the best source of clarity during your engagement—and, in these letters, that's exactly what you will find.

"In a culture that is consistently and continually failing miserably at marriage, we desperately need someone to show us a better way. . . . [This book] is down to earth, practical, helpful, and rooted in God's Word. We highly recommend it!"

-KRISTEN CLARK AND BETHANY BAIRD

"Pull up a chair and spend a few hours with Sean and Spencer. You will come away packed with fresh faith, enriched by practical insights, and uniquely prepared for the magnificent journey toward marriage!"

-DAVE HARVEY





