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Love Songs—I'll Be

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Do you believe there is only one soul mate for each person? If you don't think you've found that soul mate in your marriage, are you willing to work towards it? Can old love be made new? Are you willing to do what it takes to build into your partner? Who in your life has helped you emerge (grow, bloom)? Who have you helped? What does it look like to help another person emerge?

The human **SOUL** is the seat of intellect, emotion and will. **Soul mates** are not found, they are built by bonding in these three areas.

Building Intellectual Bonds requires a continual understanding and pursuit of the other person for the purpose of encouraging, cheerleading and helping them emerge.

Building Emotional Bonds requires a commitment to endurance, stickiness, an attitude of long-suffering no matter what comes, a forever relationship. Men build this by shared adventures that are physical in nature and side-by-side. Women build this by sharing information face-to-face, lamenting, sympathizing and listening.

Building a Bond of Will requires that you know yourself first. You have decided how you want to live, what you're looking for and what you hope for. A shared bond in Jesus Christ allows you to be equally yoked and creates the potential for the strongest bond of will.

Read John 13:1-15

How did washing the disciples' feet show Jesus' love for them? What examples are there of Jesus' willingness to bond intellectually, emotionally and willfully? What emerging took place in the lives of the disciples because of Jesus' investment?

Building **soul mates** requires understanding, love, respect, acceptance, negotiating, sharing, listening, etc. What verses support these activities and attitudes of the heart? What fruit do these characteristics yield?

Jesus came small, low and as a humbled servant. Yet He knew who He was as the Son of God—able to call down the angels from Heaven at any given moment. We must do the same and learn to live day-by-day serving one another, championing them, and considering them as more important than ourselves.

NEXT STEPS

Take time to talk to God this week.

Thank Him for His servant example and His willingness to die on the cross in your place.

Ask Him to enable you to live a life that displays the same attitude—a life that would be willing to give and give and give. Ask God to infuse you with His power, through His Holy Spirit, to learn to do this well.

Work toward becoming the soul mate of your spouse.