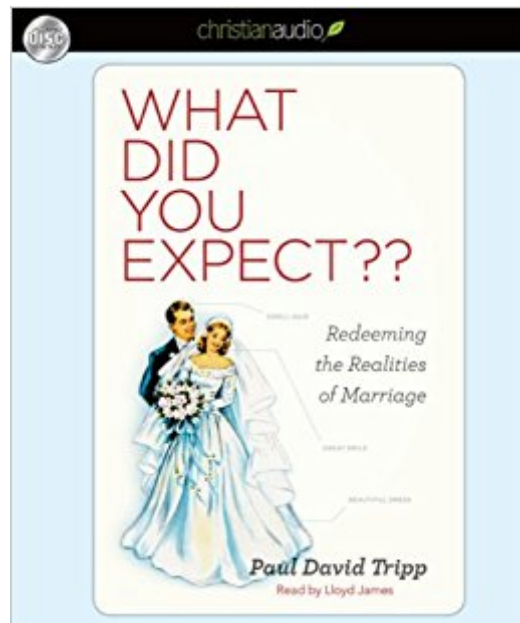




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# What Did You Expect?: Redeeming The Realities Of Marriage



## Synopsis

Marriage, according to Scripture, will always involve two flawed people living with each other in a fallen world. Yet, in pastor Paul Tripp's professional experience, the majority of couples enter marriage with unrealistic expectations, leaving them unprepared for the day-to-day realities of married life. This unique book introduces a biblical and practical approach to those realities that is rooted in God's faithfulness and Scripture's teaching on sin and grace. "Spouses need to be reconciled to each other and to God on a daily basis," Tripp declares. "Since we're always sinners married to sinners, reconciliation isn't just the right response in moments of failure. It must be the lifestyle of any healthy marriage." *What Did You Expect?* presents six practical commitments that give shape and momentum to such a lifestyle. These commitments, which include honestly facing sin, weakness, and failure; willingness to change; and embodying Christ's love, will equip couples to develop a thriving, grace-based marriage in all circumstances and seasons of their relationship.

## Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: christianaudio; Unabridged edition (May 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1596448989

ISBN-13: 978-1596448988

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.8 x 6 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 272 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,262,364 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #83 in Books > Books on CD > Health, Mind & Body > Sexuality #960 in Books > Books on CD > Religion & Spirituality > Christianity #1811 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Dating & Relationships

## Customer Reviews

âœNoel and I listened to most of this book driving in the car! Wise words. Authentic experience. Provocative application. Turned a long trip into a fruitful two-person marriage seminar.âœ •âœJohn Piper,âœ Founder, [desiringGod.org](http://desiringGod.org); Chancellor, Bethlehem College & SeminaryâœWhen Paul Tripp teaches, preaches, or writes he does so through the lens of the gospel. In *What Did You Expect?*, Paul faithfully and brilliantly lets the gospel bear its weight on the messiness and beauty of marriage. I, personally, found the book to be helpful, and we use it extensively at The

Village. • "Matt Chandler, lead pastor, The Village Church, Dallas, Texas; president, Acts 29 Church Planting Network; author, *The Mingling of Souls* and *The Explicit Gospel* • "The reason *What Did You Expect?* is so powerful is not because Paul Tripp is a marriage expert with tips and tricks to fix your problems, it's because his teaching is drenched in the gospel and the Word of God. This honest book will help you see yourself and your spouse in a new light as it shows you who Jesus is and how to connect his redeeming grace to the daily realities of your marriage. Singles and engaged couples will benefit from it, too. • "Joshua Harris, Former Senior Pastor, Covenant Life Church, Gaithersburg, Maryland; author, *Dug Down Deep* • "At once deeply theological and practically relevant, this is one of the top books on marriage I have ever read. Paul Tripp allows readers to examine marriage through a biblical lens so that we understand how God can graciously heal our hurting homes. As a pastor, I will implore our people to read this book as soon as it is available. • "Chris Brauns, Pastor, The Red Brick Church, Stillman Valley, Illinois; author, *Unpacking Forgiveness*, *Bound Together*, and *When the Word Leads Your Pastoral Search* • "What I've come to expect from Paul Tripp is consistently deep, transparent, biblical, wise, practical, gospel-driven counsel. Rather than muddying the water with self-focused strategies designed to meet our ever-multiplying needs, Paul, as the seasoned soul-physician he is, correctly diagnoses our problems and provides the cure • "humble faith in Jesus Christ. I wasn't disappointed. You won't be either. • "Elyse M. Fitzpatrick, counselor; speaker; author, *Found in Him* • "Paul Tripp brings many years of counseling, growth as a husband, and deepening discovery of the liberating power of grace to this realistic and challenging guide to God's engagement in redeeming marriages that are threatened by complacency, misunderstanding, and selfishness. The Bible's message of the humbling and healing power of Christ's mercy and the powerful presence of his Spirit in our homes comes through loud and clear. The daily practicality of gospel doctrine is made crystal clear by Tripp's transparency about his personal missteps in becoming a Christ-reflecting husband and the many examples of couples who have discovered that they are sinners married to sinners. But that the third, divine Party in marriage gives hope and change when unrealistic expectations are shattered and when we confront our sin. But be warned: Tripp's diagnostic questions are downright uncomfortable. Even those with strong marriages by God's grace will find their deep tendencies toward self-coronation challenged! • "Dennis E. Johnson, Professor of Practical Theology, Westminster Seminary California • "Paul Tripp issues a challenge for couples to roll up their sleeves, get to work, and do what it takes to build a God-honoring relationship. He presents six commitments for couples to make, and contained within each is insightful, practical, and effective advice on how to construct a loving, growing,

grace-soaked marriage.â •â "Mary A. Kassian, Professor of Women's Studies, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; author, *Girls Gone Wise in a World Gone Wild* --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

PAUL TRIPP is the president of Paul Tripp Ministries, a nonprofit organization, whose mission statement is "Connecting the transforming power of Jesus Christ to everyday life." This mission leads Paul to weekly speaking engagements around the world. In addition to being a gifted communicator and sought after conference speaker with Paul Tripp Ministries, Paul is on the pastoral staff at Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where he preaches on Sunday evenings and leads the Ministry to Center City. Paul is also professor of pastoral life and care at Redeemer Seminary in Dallas, Texas. He is the director of the Center for Pastoral Life and Care in Fort Worth, Texas, and has taught at respected institutions worldwide. As an author, Paul has written eleven books on Christian living that are read and distributed internationally, including *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands*; *War of Words*; *Â Broken Down House*; *Â* and *Crossway's Whiter Than Snow*. He has been married for many years to Luella and they have four grown children.

Excellent read! I would recommend this book to EVERYONE considering marriage...engagement....married...seperated...and divorced. The lessons contained are realistic and helps couples understand that the romantic side of love is not enough to sustain even the most profound level of love for we are also have romanticize what love truly is. God is pleased when we please God. Following God's will in terms if how we treat one another is how we maintain peace in marriage. Godly grace exercised in marriage is the example of how we get through the marriage with grace.

By far the best marriage book ever!!!! But it is far more than a marriage book as it focuses on Christ the Author of marriage. I have grown in my walk with God and become to appreciate my wife much more.

All the questions and proposed commitments were immensely practical and convicting. I was reminded of the need to die to self *Ã¢Â* self-sufficiency and self-pursuits and live in dependence upon the Lord and for His glory*Ã¢Â* seeking to worship Him in all I do.Praise the Lord for Christ and His grace towards us, weak, self-absorbed sinners, who are being transformed more and more

into His glorious image through our marriage relationships.

Didn't get a chance to read the whole book, but what I did see from thumbing through it, was easy to read, and good information. It was a gift to our oldest grandson and his fiancée, as an early wedding gift. I think I need to get one for myself and my husband, as a refresher on how to keep your marriage alive and thriving.

Terrific book, my husband ( of 40 years) and I are doing it together. Tripp's insight on human behavior and his reminders of God's promises, faithfulness and His partnership with us in this covenant of marriage is so very helpful. We are spending time together discussing things that had " fallen through the cracks" over the years of raising children, jobs, education, and life!

Another excellent book from Paul David Tripp. I read this book at the same time that I began to read his newer book "Dangerous Calling." I was extremely impressed with that book, but this book on marriage is also outstanding. Tripp blows away the false expectations so many couples have when entering marriage. This is a book that deals with "in the trenches" marriage issues, matters of the heart. This is not a book primarily about adultery or other marriage-busting problems. It is more about the slow erosion that happens when false expectations collide with idols of the heart. Tripp is so good at focusing on the realities of marriage that some readers could be overwhelmed by a sense of defeat when they consider their failures. Tripp seasons his words with grace and is careful to point to the gospel and the power of Christ to deliver us from ourselves, yet the book could still be read with a negative slant, just by the sheer number of negative examples he presents. This, however, is my only real critique of a book that will provide help to many couples who heed its central message that true love for your spouse and a strong marriage comes when husband and wife focus on God and away from self.

The best book yet that I have read dealing with the realistic expectations of marriage and how to turn to God for solutions. I will keep it around so I can read it more than once.

A detailed roadmap of where marriages go wrong and how to get back on track when you are at the point of giving up. I am now in a much better place to start the hard work required whereas a week ago I was ready to give up, and seriously thought suicide is the only way out. The book gets a bit long winded and repeat many things. But the underlying facts and approach is what matters and

make the difference.

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