

## THE PLAN | CHAPTER 1

(Questions found on pages 26–27)

### Discussion Questions

- What have you discovered about yourself because of the person you're with?
- Has anything you've discovered scared you?
- What's been enriching?
- What have the unplanned parts of your life taught you about yourself?
- In what areas of your life do you feel like it's safer to stay the same rather than risk something new?
- In what areas of your life have you sensed change?
- What have these changes added to your life?
- What have these changes added to your relationship?

## LEARNING THE OTHER | CHAPTER 2

(Questions found on pages 38–51)

### Discussion Questions

- What are little things about the other person that get under your skin that you haven't asked about? That maybe you've made some assumptions about?
- How has your own upbringing shaped those assumptions?
- What are the moments you got upset when your partner raised an issue or a frustration?
- What kept you from hearing their concern or hurt?
- What are the other person's patterns? When pressed? When confronted by the prospect of change? In times of "plenty"?
- Think about some of your responses or conversation about the earlier discussion questions. How many of those were shaped by realities of race, ethnicity, gender, ability, or sexuality?
- What are the stories and histories you need to learn in order to understand where the tendencies of your partner might come from?

## RACE AND BELONGING | CHAPTER 3

(Questions found on pages 67–77)

### Discussion Questions

- What were the communities that shaped you?
- Where did you feel the deepest sense of belonging?
- Where did you experience moments of isolation?
- How do those feelings and experiences shape your sense of connection to community now?
- Do those communities and feelings of belonging overlap or differ for each of you?
- What are some ways you have navigated the realities of white supremacy? Maybe through fight or flight? By finding “your people”?
- How do your strategies overlap with or diverge from your partner’s strategies?
- What are your conversations about navigating a racial world like? Is there tension? Difficulty understanding? Similarities?
- What are the cultural or racial stories that you continue to carry with you?
- What are your partner’s stories that you are beginning to learn?
- What stories do you still need to discover?

## IT’S A MAN’S WORLD? GENDER AND MARRIAGE FROM A MAN’S PERSPECTIVE | CHAPTER 4

(Questions found on pages 89–96)

### Discussion Questions

- What are some moments when you’ve seen opportunities opening up for one person and not the other? How have you made the decision about whether to go for it or wait?
- What are ways a space of privilege or power might give you the freedom to go slower or take advantage of institutional bias to create space for your partner?

## GLASS BULBS AND RUBBER BALLS: GENDER AND MARRIAGE FROM A WOMAN'S PERSPECTIVE | CHAPTER 5

(Questions found on page 109)

### Discussion Questions

- How have you experienced the pressures of juggling and balancing?
- Have you been told it's possible to juggle life well?
- What are glass bulbs in this season for you that seem fragile, or may require intentional and extra care?
- What are rubber balls that you know can and will bounce back in time if dropped?
- What does this look like for you as a couple or family?
- What might this look like for each of you individually?

## OUR GOLDEN RULE | CHAPTER 6

(Questions found on page 130)

### Discussion Questions

- What is a foundational commitment that you share with your partner?
- How does that commitment inform not only the decisions that you make but also how you navigate the life that those decisions create?

## COVENANT FOR COMMUNITY | CHAPTER 7

(Questions found on page 144)

### Discussion Questions

- What does your marriage mean for your community?
- What are ways that creating a space of flourishing for your partner might also create space for others outside your home?
- Marriage isn't only about creating spaces but also learning and receiving. How do the single people in your life model love and flourishing?