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## THE DANCE OF MARRIAGE

## KEEPING IN STEP THROUGH THE LAST SONG

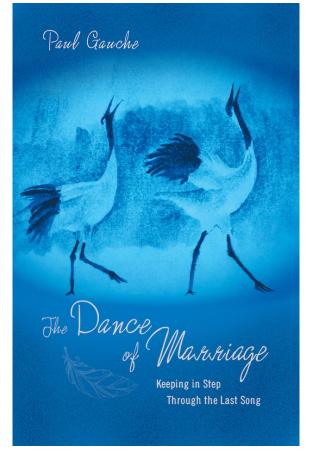
#### PAUL GAUCHE

Seeing individual, modern stories of marriage

through the lens of ancient spiritual wisdom can provide an inspiring and profound view of life together. In *The Dance of Marriage*, author and pastor Paul Gauche does just that. Instead of writing a simple how-to marriage book, Paul weaves together his own marriage story, the stories of couples he's worked with, and the biblical account of the wedding in Cana.

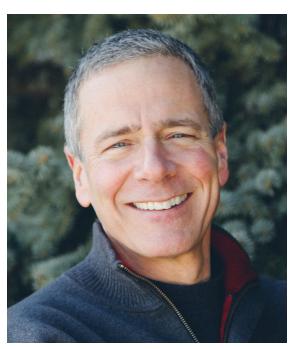
Using that first-century account, Paul guides and inspires twenty-first-century couples to consider how every relationship has a beginning, every couple faces a crisis, and every marriage needs a miracle. He lays out the significance of inviting Jesus not only to our wedding but into the daily "dance" of marriage.

The Dance of Marriage emerges from three decades of working with over four hundred couples, planning wedding ceremonies that reflect commitments to build strong marriages. The result is a fresh, moving look at how the ordinary stories of married life add up to one extraordinary narrative of love. This book offers help and insight to any couple looking to move more in sync, whether they are engaged, newlyweds, or seasoned veterans.





# About the Author PAUL GAUCHE



Paul Gauche is a pastor, but he sometimes introduces himself first by his other, more relatable occupations, lest he ice conversation. He may lead with "I'm a writer," then share that he's also a husband, father, grandfather, speaker, marriage and family specialist, marathoner, long-distance hiker, musician, song writer, and cook—and the pastor of Life Transitions at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Burnsville, Minnesota. After graduating from Pacific

Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, Paul earned his master of divinity at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he met his sweet bride of over thirty-four years, Nancy Lee. Paul has served as a pastor for over three decades, working with hundreds of couples as they plan their weddings.

## Connect with the Author

Website: paulgauche.com



## What Others are Saying About The Dance of Marriage

"Brilliant. I've never heard anything like this! Just brilliant."

#### -Eugene H. Peterson, author of The Pastor and The Message, Lakeside, MT

"Every couple invested in lifelong love will benefit from this compelling book. Paul Gauche reveals a tantalizing tale that is sure to not only inspire you in your marriage, but equip you along the way, too. Don't miss out on *The Dance of Marriage*."

## —Drs. Les & Leslie Parrot, #1 New York Times bestselling authors of *Saving Your Marriage Before It Starts*, Seattle, WA

"Paul is one of the most effective marriage practitioners I know. He is driven and passionate about helping couples create great marriages. I have seen this firsthand in his work with hundreds of young married couples including my own daughter and her husband. *The Dance of Marriage* is an inspiring and practical resource for anyone wanting to nurture their marriage and has inspired me to celebrate my own 30 years of marriage. It is the dance that you will want to keep sharing with your partner."

### —Sandy Rothschiller, pastor of spiritual care, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Burnsville, MN

"This is an extraordinarily accessible piece of real, usable value for us all—a gift for all who have a stake in generative marriages. As a husband, father, and pastor, Paul weaves 'real life' and Scripture into a narrative of marriage strong in counsel and rich in tender inspiration. Here is a message of 'realistic hope' in which God's story, Paul's story, and our stories authentically enrich each other in an extraordinary piece of 'life wisdom.'"

## —Ronald D. Martinson, professor emeritus of Children Youth and Family Ministry, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN

"This fresh, creative work can help couples of all ages discover dance as the hidden language of marriage. Paul draws from a lifetime of relational and spiritual experiences to help couples keep on dancing, whether they can hear the music or not."

#### -Reverends Kathy and Matt Valan, DreamFields Ranch, Moorhead, MN



"Over thirty years ago, I was blessed to be a part of the seminary community that watched and cheered when Paul and Nancy Lee 'fell in like' and then in love, and then were married. Paul's book, *The Dance of Marriage*, is a fitting tribute to the journey of Nancy Lee and Paul, as well as to so many other journeys like theirs. Marriage is both gift and challenge, with spouses learning to dance with each other, and in the best of all relationships, with God as well. *The Dance of Marriage* invites us to consider how we are invited to risk, to pray, to trust, to share, to weep, to commit, to love, and to know joy and peace as God blesses and encourages us to reveal Christ to one another through the gift, and the dance, of marriage."

#### -Mark. W. Holmerud, bishop, Sierra Pacific Synod, ELCA, Sacramento, CA

"Stories are powerful tools that penetrate past our rational mind and engage our souls, taking root, growing, and anchoring themselves in our memory. Through stories told and questions asked, Paul follows his mentor, Jesus, who spoke most often in stories (parables) and never failed to ask deceptively simple—albeit soul-piercing—questions. If you know that you and your marriage are worth more: more investment, more effort, more exploration, then this book is for you. (And by the way, Paul's exploration in the 'Prologue' of the biblical wedding at Cana is alone worth the price of the book.)"

-Phil and Debbie Waite, Logan, UT

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## Suggested Interview Questions For Paul Gauche, author of The Dance of Marriage

Keeping in Step Through the Last Song

### Q: How is this book different from other books about marriage?

**A:** While certainly not the only voice introducing real stories of real couples in real marriages, the unique quality of *The Dance of Marriage* is that no other book on the market identifies this kind of structure—architecture with the subsequent movements from the beginning of relationships leading to a lifetime of marriage.

### Q: Who is this book written for, and why would it be relevant?

This book is primarily for married couples who want to see their marriage today in the broader context of a lifelong commitment. For example, going back and recalling how you met, how trust grew into commitment, and how love emerged over a lifetime of experience together is a very bonding experience.

#### Q: Is this only relevant to a faith-based audience?

**A:** This is a story rooted in the gospel of John and simply yet powerfully tells a story of something ordinary becoming extraordinary. Because these ancient scriptures continue to speak into our culture today, there is something of value here for anyone in any kind of relationship.

## Q: The story of Jesus turning water into wine is key in your book. What is the connection between this story, from John 2, and your message about marriage?

**A:** The ancient words and wisdom from the gospel of John reveals several key movements: Jesus was invited to a marriage, which is much different than a wedding; a crisis arose into which Jesus' mother spoke powerful words—"Do whatever he tells you." Jesus turned water into wine—a powerful reminder that Christ turns the ordinary into the extraordinary in our lives.



### Q: What does water becoming wine have to do with making a marriage work?

A: Water becoming wine is a powerful metaphor for marriages. Something ordinary becomes extraordinary, something plain becomes exceptional. Something common becomes uncommon, and something routine becomes remarkable. These are all ways of acknowledging that in relationships, there is always room for growth. But growth always comes from some hard work. So making a marriage work implies that a couple tends to it, studies it, invests in it, manages it, works at it. That process—however you describe it—is the work that transforms something into something stronger, bigger, better, more expansive.

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