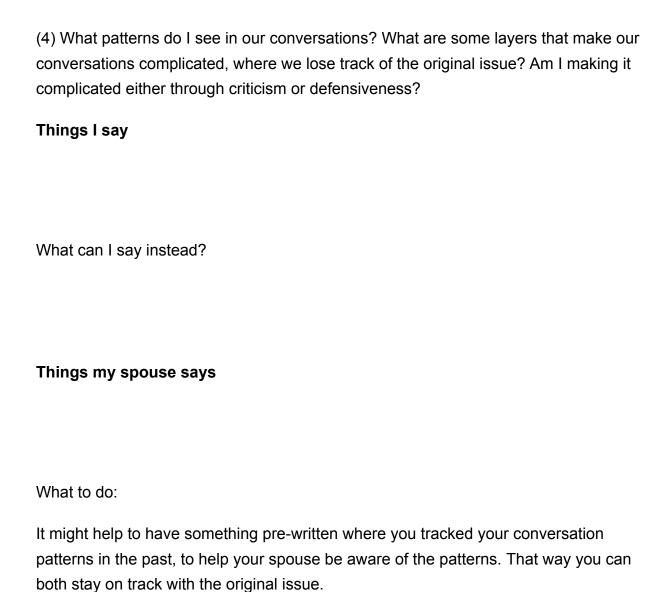
Making Peace

Peace in marriage is essential, so it's important to focus on actively making peace. As Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers." How can we be peacemakers? Romans 14:19 says to "follow the things that make for peace." Consider which words and actions create peace, and which do not.

(1) What are some times I have responded with the wrong attitude? What triggered me? How will I respond with meekness and self-control? What words can I say that wisely move us to a solution?

(2) Am I making negative assumptions? (1 Corinthians 4:5)

(3) Do I have a controlling attitude?



(5) What will I do if a conversation turns into conflict?
(Example: Leave the room temporarily, write down thoughts, filter thoughts through Matthew chapter 5 and 1 Corinthians 4:5, compare the issue to previous conversations, consider the best way to connect & relate rather than simply speaking whatever comes to mind.)
(6) If there are any areas where I think my spouse could improve, what is the best way to approach the situation with meekness and a positive attitude?
(7) When is the best time to bring up a difficult conversation? (Avoid late at night, or during a stressful situation; consider waiting until a day off work.)
Application:
For difficult conversations that are <i>planned</i> , but necessary, write out your words ahead of time (with meekness), and then stay on track during the conversation.
For difficult conversations that are spontaneous , prepare by taking the time to imagine a scenario where you would normally fall into conflict, and picture yourself responding differently, based on the points above.