

Praying with your Spouse

A prayer guide - priorities

INTRODUCTION

In November we hosted the Sacred Marriage Conference and many of us made this commitment at the end of the conference:

"From this day forward, we're committed to fighting for our marriage. We promise to seek God for the wisdom, strength, and tenacity needed to create and sustain a sacred marriage with one and another. Whatever it takes, we're all in. We will remember that marriage wasn't created to make us happy, it was created to make us holy."

With this commitment, hundreds of us pinpointed one barrier that is keeping us from having a Christ centered marriage; these barriers have been prayed over ever since.

During the Revival Series we want to provide ways you, as couples, can be praying over these barriers, too.

We are providing couples with prayer prompts for each of the top nine barriers that were identified. We have offered ideas for how the issue may be impacting your home or a friend's home; a Scripture that speaks about this topic, a suggested action item and a prayer. Please use this time to pray, as husband and wife, over your marriage and the marriages of all those around us. Let us start a revival in our homes...a revival in our marriages...a revival in our families.

Each topic includes:

- Topic introduction.
- A passage that speaks about this topic.
- A practice or idea that may benefit your marriage.
- A prayer regarding the topic.

Priorities

We all KNOW we should live our lives with specific set priorities, yet it feels like a constant battle to keep them in line. We have in mind what we want to do, yet we do not do what we want to do. No- we put other things first instead. Sound familiar? (Rom 7) As disciples- we know that our relationship to God should come first- prayer, study, etc. Yet in our spiritual warfare - Satan attacks this relationship to drain us of the very power we need to fight his schemes. Our second priority should be our relationship with our spouse. It is the most important human bond we can have. We must commit to this relationship and keep it as a top priority in our hearts. Yet- in this warfare- Satan would want nothing more than to use our everyday lives and activities to deceive us and steal what we must treasure. We get distracted by "important" things/people-job(s), kids, hobbies, sports, energy level, trials, finances, etc and start to take one another for granted. Instead, we must learn to prioritize and use these things to draw closer to one another and be unified in the spiritual battle day after day- setting our life's priorities together. Our spouse in many ways can be the key to our salvation.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

This week sit down with your spouse and make a list of all the things that get in the way of you, making each other and your marriage your top human priority. Maybe start this discussion with the short prayer below. Discuss with open humble hearts what changes you need to make in unity to ensure that your relationship is taking precedence in your hearts and actions over all else. Start acting on this by coming up with two practical changes you can make together these next two weeks and grow from there.

Dear God, we are grateful for our marriage and the way that you nurture us and help us to grow in you and as a couple. Please help us to clearly see the things in our lives that can block us from making our marriage the highest earthly priority we have. Please help us to have humble hearts as we discuss and plan how to practically make the changes in our daily lives that will build our marriage and allow us to grow in treasuring one another. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.