

# Praying with your Spouse

A prayer guide - selfish desires

## 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.

# Selfish Desires

Selfish desires can show up in marriages in many ways; it can be as simple as only buying the flavor gum you like or as devastating as having an affair. Regardless to how they show up, ignoring their presence will always impact your relationship with your wife/husband. At first it is hurtful, maybe a little or maybe a lot, and over time the hurt gets worst and the selfishness gets stronger. Eventually, one person will feel defeated, unimportant, unloved, unvalued...none of which we promised when we got married. We need to ward off selfish desires for the sake of the person we promised to love and cherish until "death do us part."

Romans 12:10 says, "Be devoted to one and other in love. Honor one and other above yourself."

This week make a change that will demonstrate honor to your wife or husband, above your own desire. Does your spouse have a favorite restaurant that you never go to? Is there a coffee shop your spouse loves, and you have never taken them? Watch their favorite movie. Make their favorite dessert. Finish that project you started. Wash their car. Take them away for a romantic weekend. Run the vacuum. Ask them how their day was. Make an effort this week to show your wife or husband how you are willing to put their desires before your own, be creative, be loving, it doesn't have to one of my ideas, you know your spouse better than I do!

Dear God, I am grateful for my wife (husband), thank You for the relationship we have with You and with each other. Help us live as one. Help me love my wife (husband) the way You love them, the way You love Your church. Show me areas where I put my desires before those of my wife (husband), and how I can change my attitude on these desires. I want to be a husband (wife) who honors my wife (husband) more than myself. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.