

# Praying with your Spouse

A prayer guide - spiritual roles

## 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.

# Spiritual Roles

We have been blessed with God-given roles as husbands and wives. Husbands are given the role of spiritual leaders of their households. The husband is commanded to love his wife as he loves himself which can be relayed in many ways - by his own spiritual relationship with God, through listening, being considerate, expressing words of kindness and truth, being an example and showing affection. And the wife is commanded to respect her husband. She must honor him, revere him and appreciate him. In her heart she must value her husband as the man God has put in her life. That is what he needs from her to be an effective leader. These roles are interdependent on one another because they are really a display of Christ's relationship with the church.

Ephesian 5:23 "The husband is the head of the wife"; Ephesians 5: 33 "However, each one of you must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband." ; Proverbs 31:12 "She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life"

This week- in your partnership of marriage:

Husbands - Take the initiative every day this week to pray with your wives. Each day think of something different to thank God for about what she means to you, for what she does (cook, take care of kids, etc.) and the many ways she has helped you grow as an individual.

Wives- think of a specific way that you can show your husband that you honor, revere and appreciate your husband and his leadership. Maybe write a short note about a small thing he has done to lead you spiritually. Also, ask him what you might be able to do differently to ensure that he feels respected by you in the way God desires.

Holy Father, thank you for my spouse and all the things he/she does for me and means to me. Please help me understand my role as a husband/wife so that I can meet the needs of my spouse and bring glory to you and your church. Help our marriage grow, become strong and be an example to our children and to others. In the name of your son, Jesus, amen.