



THE PRAYER CLOSET

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A Christian marriage is established and maintained by prayer. A Christian marriage begins when two believers commit together before God to be husband and wife. The couple acknowledges Jesus Christ as their own personal Lord and Savior. This couple commits to build their marriage according to the truths of the Word of God. **This is the starting point.**

However, this is only the starting point. Too many couples believe that going to church is enough to secure their marriage. It is often assumed that if a couple goes to church, the marriage will automatically work out. Too many times, going to church is seen as a cure for marital problems.

Unfortunately, this is not true. Christians who go to church are divorcing as much as lost people who don't go to church. By saying this, I am not underestimating the importance of attending and participating in a local church. A Christian couple that is not faithful to church is a special target for Satan. **At the same time, a Christian couple that goes to church and does not pray for their marriage and for one another is in as much danger. A Christian couple that fails to put into practice the biblical teaching concerning marriage is in a dangerous position.**

Going to church will never be a substitute for obedience to God's Word concerning marriage. You cannot allow your church attendance to make you lazy in working on your marriage. There are no magical formulas or simple plans for building a strong, lasting Christian marriage.

Prayer is essential for building a strong, lasting Christian marriage. By praying for each other, you are humbling yourself before God, seeking God's help and blessing on your marriage. A couple that thinks they can have a lasting, strong marriage without God's daily help and blessing is headed for trouble. God gives grace to the humble, but He resists and breaks the proud (1 Peter 5:5-6). By praying for each other, you are providing a channel for God's blessing and power to enter your marriage.

By praying for each other, you are seeking to put into practice the principles of God's Word in your life. When you pray through God's principles for marriage, you are asking God to make these a reality in your life. This gives you a greater understanding of God's Word. And, as you ask the Holy Spirit to work this into your life, He will show you ways to apply these truths in your marriage. He will enable you to see ways that you can practice these truths on a daily basis.

Finally, prayer is essential to your marriage because it increases the depth and intensity of your love for one another. It is impossible to pray faithfully and earnestly for a person and then fail to have more compassion and love for that person. The more you pray for a person, the greater your love for that person. This is especially true of your spouse. When you pour your heart out for your spouse in prayer before God, God will then fill your heart with love for that person.

Praying For Your Husband

The following prayer list is provided as a guide to help you in praying for your husband. The greatest thing you can do for your husband is pray continually for Him. These prayer requests are based on the Word of God. These requests are God's will for your husband. You can combine these with your requests for his safety and the needs of his day. Plead with the Holy Spirit to make these requests a reality in your husband's life. Plead with the Holy Spirit to conform your husband's life to the Word of God.

- (1) Salvation: "Father, I pray that my husband would have a genuine, personal relationship with You through Your Son Jesus Christ (John 3:16; 5:25)."
- (2) Hunger for the Word of God: "O God, I plead that my husband will love Your Word and will seek to live according to Your commands (Psalm 19:10; 119:33-34)."
- (3) Godly leadership of the home: "O God, enable my husband to provide loving, godly leadership for this home (Joshua 24:15)."
- (4) A wise and loving husband: "Lord, I ask that through the power of the Holy Spirit my husband would love me like Christ loves the church. This is Your demand of Him and I plead that You would create this love in him (Ephesians 5:25; Romans 5:5)."
- (5) A discerning and wise parent: "God, I ask You to enable my husband to take the lead in raising our child (children) according to the standards of the Bible. Create a wise and discerning heart in him for this purpose (Ephesians 6:4)."
- (6) Able to lead the family spiritually: "Lord God, I plead that You would cause my husband to learn, teach, and model the truth of God's Word in our home (Deuteronomy 6:1-9)."
- (7) The fruit of the Holy Spirit: "Father, I pray that the fruit of the Holy Spirit will be evident in my husband's life on a daily basis (Galatians 5:22-23)."
- (8) Growth in grace: "O God, I ask that my husband would grow in His knowledge of character and will of God (1 Peter 2:1-2)."
- (9) Protection from sexual temptation: "Father, I plead that You will enable my husband to think godly thoughts and to always remember the commitment that he has made to You and to me. Remind him of the high cost of adultery (Philippians 4:8; Mark 9: 5-9; Proverbs 6:20-35)."
- (10) Pursuit of godliness and holiness: "Father, I ask You to cause my husband to hate his sin and move him to root it out of his life. I ask you to create godly habits in his life. Make him like Christ (Romans 8:29; Colossians 3:5-10; Hebrews 12:14)."
- (11) Support of the household: "O Lord, empower my husband to support this family financially. Bless him abundantly with financial resources (1 Timothy 4:8)."
- (12) Prayerfulness: "Father, grant that my husband would be a mighty man of prayer (Ephesians 6:18; James 5:16)."
- (13) Passion for God: "O God, instill in my husband a burning desire, a longing, to know You and worship You (Psalm 42:1-2; 63:8)."

- (14) A servant's heart: "Lord, develop a servant's heart in my husband that he may serve wholeheartedly to the Lord and not as to men (Ephesians 6:7)."
- (15) Honesty: "Father, cause honesty to characterize his life. Enable him to be honest in all things with all people (Ephesians 4:25; Psalm 25:21)."
- (16) Contentment: "Father, teach my husband the secret of being content in any and every situation through Him who gives strength (Philippians 4:12-13)."
- (17) Perseverance: "Lord, teach my husband to persevere in all that he does, especially in the race of the Christian life (Hebrews 12:1)."
- (18) Justice: "God, help my husband to love justice as you do and to act justly in all that he does (Psalm 11:7; Micah 6:8)."
- (19) Courage: "Enable my husband to always be strong and courageous in his character and in his actions (Deuteronomy 31:6)."
- (20) Generosity: "Grant that my husband will be generous and willing to share and so lay up treasure for himself as a firm foundation in the coming age (1 Timothy 6:18-19)."
- (21) A personal witness of Christ: "Lord, enable my husband to share his faith with others. Make him a bold witness for Yourself (Acts 1:8; 4:31)."
- (22) Filled with the Holy Spirit: "May my husband always be filled with the Holy Spirit. Cause him to be dependent on the Holy Spirit daily (Ephesians 5:18)."
- (23) Purity: "Create a pure heart in my husband, Father. Let that purity be shown in all his words and actions (Psalm 51:10)."
- (24) Compassion: "Lord, please clothe my husband with compassion. Cause him to always be compassionate in his dealings with me and the children (Titus 3:2)."
- (25) Thankfulness: "Grant, Lord, that my husband will always be overflowing with thankfulness. Enable him to always give thanks to God through Christ (Colossians 2:7; Ephesians 5:20)."
- (26) A heart for missions: "Lord please help my husband develop a desire to see Your glory declared among the nations (Psalm 96:3)."

Ask God to show you what particular needs your husband has that you need to pray about. Pray for the strengthening of his weaknesses and the repentance and removal of sin from his life. Plead with God to make the changes that He wants to make in His life.

Praying For Your Wife

As the spiritual leader of your home, your top priority is to pray for your wife. If you are not praying for your wife, it is going to be difficult to minister to her and to provide the leadership that she needs. The following prayer list is offered to you as a guide to help you in praying for your wife. You can combine these requests with those for her safety and the needs of

the day. Plead with the Holy Spirit to make these requests a reality in her life. Plead with the Holy Spirit to conform her life to God's Word.

- (1) Salvation: "Father, I pray that my wife would have a genuine personal relationship with God through Your Son Jesus Christ (John 3:16; 5:25)."
- (2) Love for God's Word: "Enable my wife to find Your Word more precious than pure gold and sweeter than honey from the comb (Psalm 19:10)."
- (3) Prayerfulness: "Lord, I ask that my wife's life would be characterized by prayerfulness (Ephesians 6:18; Jude 20)."
- (4) A longing for God: "Father, create in my wife a burning desire to know You and to worship You (Psalm 42:1-2; 63:8)."
- (5) Submissive and loyal: "Father, I ask You to enable my wife to be submissive to me and loyal in all matters. Enable me to provide such loving and wise leadership that this will be a delight for her than simply a duty she has to perform (Ephesians 5:22)."
- (6) Love: "Enable my wife to love me and empower me to love her more than my own life (Ephesians 5:28; Romans 5:5)."
- (7) Wisdom: "O God, give me the wisdom and knowledge to lead, honor, and exalt my wife because she is the weaker vessel (1 Peter 3:7)."
- (8) The fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)
- (9) Growth in grace (1 Peter 2:1-2)
- (10) Holiness and godliness (Romans 8:29; Colossians 3:5-10)
- (11) Faithfulness: "O God, enable my wife to be faithful to me in all areas of life (Proverbs 31:12)."
- (12) Diligent: "Lord, make my wife diligent and competent in all that she is called on to do and that she is faced with (Proverbs 31:13-27)."
- (13) A wise and discerning mother: "Father, create a wise and discerning heart in my wife so that she can raise godly children (Proverbs 31:28)."
- (14) True beauty: "Lord, enable my wife to see that true beauty is inner beauty. Create a meek and quiet spirit in her which is of great value in the sight of God (1 Peter 3:3-4)."
- (15) Contentment (Colossians 3:12)
- (16) A servant's heart (Ephesians 6:7)
- (17) Gratitude (1 Thessalonians 5:18)
- (18) Honesty (Ephesians 4:25)

- (19) Purity (Psalm 51:10)
- (20) A heart for missions (Psalm 96:3)
- (21) A personal witness for Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8; 4:31)
- (22) Filled with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18)
- (23) Perseverance (Hebrews 12:1)
- (24) Justice (Micah 6:8; Psalm 11:7)
- (25) Faith (Ephesians 3:17)

Ask God to show you what particular needs your wife has that you need to pray about. Ask God to strengthen her weaknesses and for the repentance and removal of sins from her life. Ask God to make whatever changes He wants in her life. Both of you need to pray that you will both be faithful to serve Jesus Christ in His church. **THE GREATEST GIFT THAT YOU CAN GIVE YOUR CHILD IS A MOM AND DAD THAT LOVES JESUS CHRIST WITH ALL THEIR HEARTS AND A MOM AND DAD THAT LOVES EACH OTHER WITH ALL THEIR HEARTS THROUGH ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF LIFE!**

Praying Through Marital Problems

Every marriage is going to have times of difficulty. Problems will surface and they will be a threat to the joy and even existence of the marriage. These problems could be due to a crisis or to on-going problems of one or both of the spouses.

The devil will attempt to use these problems no matter how insignificant they seem. He will attempt to use the problems to cripple or even destroy the marriage. The way to prevent this is through prayer. Through prayer and dependence on God and His Word, a couple can overcome the problems that they are facing.

The following prayer list is offered as a guide to help you pray through marital problems. You can also use this prayer list for the safeguarding of your marriage. If you have family members or friends that are having marital problems, you can use this list to intercede for them. This is especially true of in-laws (Remember in-laws: **HANDS OFF, PRAYERS ON!**).

- (1) That God would enable them to communicate with each other in a clear and loving way (Ephesians 4:15; Proverbs 18:13);
- (2) That God would remind them of the value and preciousness of marriage (Genesis 2:22; Proverbs 18:22);
- (3) That God would enable them to find intimate and abiding joy in their love and friendship (Ecclesiastes 9:9; Proverbs 5:18);
- (4) That God would enable them to always be kind to each other, tenderhearted, and forgiving as God for Christ's sake has forgiven them (Ephesians 4:32);
- (5) That God would enable them to prevent the devil from getting a foothold in their relationship (Ephesians 4:25-31);

- (6) That God would help them to always remember that love is a commitment and a choice (1 Corinthians 13);
- (7) That they would always trust in the Lord and not lean on their own understanding (Proverbs 3:5);
- (8) That they would always acknowledge the Lord in all their ways and keeping Him as the top priority of their lives (Proverbs 3:6);
- (9) That they will remember that hatred stirs up strife but love covers a multitude of sins (Proverbs 10:12);
- (10) That they will ever remember the seriousness of the commitment that they have made to God and to each other (Mark 10:6-9; Malachi 2:16).

Praying The Beattitudes Matthew 5:4 Blessed Are Those Who Mourn

Everlasting God, Holy Father, You are El Shaddai, the God of sufficiency. You are complete and sufficient in Yourself. You stand in need of nothing. I am spiritually bankrupt. I am in need of You every moment of my life for everything in my life. This is what makes my sin against You so bitter. This is why I mourn over my sin. I have rebelled against such a good and loving God. I have dishonored Jesus who shed His blood to cleanse me from my sin. I have grieved the Holy Spirit. I have sinned against the God who I need for everything. Father, never let me be complacent over my sin.

Deliver me from taking my sin lightly. Don't allow me to focus more on the consequences of sin than over the fact that I have rebelled against the God that I am utterly dependent on. I praise You that Your forgiveness is as sweet as sin is bitter. Thank You for providing cleansing and restoration through the blood of Jesus Christ.

I claim the precious, cleansing power of His blood in this moment. I worship You and fear You because You are a God of holiness and a God of forgiveness. I will worship and praise You all the days of my life even unto the eternity of ages to come. Amen.

50 Questions Every Man Ought To Ask His Wife Based on 1 Peter 3:7

1. What are your 5 favorite foods with the most favorite as first?
2. What are your 5 favorite kinds of meals with the most favorite as first?
3. What are your 5 favorite desserts with the most favorite as the first?
4. What are your 5 favorite restaurants with the most favorite first?
5. What is your favorite color?
6. What are your 5 favorite hobbies with the most favorite as first?
7. What are your 5 favorite recreations with the most favorite as first?
8. What are your 5 favorite sources of reading with the most favorite as first?
9. What gifts do you like?
10. What is your favorite book(s) of the Bible? Why?
11. What is your favorite verse(s) in the Bible? Why?

12. What is your favorite song? Why?
13. What makes you the most fulfilled or happiest as a woman?
14. What makes you the most fulfilled or happiest as a wife?
15. What makes you the most fulfilled or happiest as a mother?
16. What makes you the saddest as a woman?
17. What makes you the saddest as a wife?
18. What makes you the saddest as a mother?
19. What do you fear the most?
20. What other fears do you have?
21. What do you look forward to the most?
22. How much sleep do you need?
23. What are your skills?
24. What is your spiritual gift?
25. What are your weaknesses?
26. What things (personal, home, car, etc.) need repairing?
27. With what chores and responsibilities do you like or need my help in?
28. What caresses do you enjoy the most?
29. What caresses do you enjoy the least?
30. What action mine provides you with the greatest sexual pleasure?
31. What other things stimulate you sexually?
32. At what times do you need the assurance of my love the most?
33. How can that love be shown?
34. What can I do that will make it easier to discuss and work on areas or problems that are uncomfortable to you?
35. What concerns do you have that I do not seem interested in?
36. What things do I do that irritate you?
37. What desires do you have that we haven't discussed?
38. What do you enjoy doing with me with the most enjoyable at first?:
39. What things can I do that show my appreciation of you?
40. What varying desires (spiritual, physical, emotional, intellectual, social, worth, appreciation, recreational, security, etc.) would you like me to provide?
41. In what ways would you like to me to protect you (emotionally, spiritually, physically, socially)?
42. In what way would you like to sacrifice for me?
43. As you look to me, what things do you see first in my life.
44. What implied or unspoken desires and wishes of yours would you like for me to fulfill?
45. What concerns and interests of yours would you like me to support?
46. How much time would be good for us to spend together each day?
47. In helping family members to use their skills and develop their abilities, what motivating factors would be helpful for me to use?
48. What can I do that provides the greatest comfort and encouragement for you when you are hurt, fearful, anxious, and worried?
49. What personal habits do I have that you would like changed?
50. What ways demonstrate to you that you are a very important person to me?