

The Importance of Praying in Your Marriage

Presenter:

Rev. Dr. David Anthony Spencer, Jr.

Agenda



- What is prayer?
- Why is Prayer Important?
- Biblical Models of Prayer in Marriage
- Model of Current Scenarios
- Role Play
- Types of Prayer
- Questions and Answers

Objectives:

Explore how shared spiritual practices can deepen your marital connection and help you navigate life's challenges together.

Emphasize the significance of prayer in marital relationships by identifying couples from the Bible where prayer was undertaken.

What is Prayer?

Prayer is a dialogue between God and His people. It is not just talking to God but also listening to Him. Prayer is both an honor and a lifeline, it connects us to the heart and mind of Christ.

Importance of Prayer

• Prayer is a Relationship not a Ritual:

Application: Prayer should be seen as a daily conversation with God, not a religious duty.

Prayer is Access to God's Presence:

Application: Praying together, invites God into our marriage.

• Prayer is Worship:

Application: Giving God thanks for one another consistently in prayer.

Importance of Prayer

• Prayer is Alignment, not Just Asking.

Application: Praying to align our goals with God's purpose.

• Prayer is Power.

Application: Pray when making decisions, facing trials, or raising children.

Prayer Is...

Prayer is not just individual—it's vital in marriage. Biblical couples show us both the struggles and victories that come when prayer is present in the relationship.

The Value of Prayer in Marriage

Financial Stress

Parenting Challenges

Health Issues

Career Decisions

Conflict and Miscommunication



The Value of Prayer in Marriage

Extended Family Pressure

Spiritual Dryness

Major Life Transitions

Community Ministry Service

Marital Intimacy



Prayer Sustains Marriage Through Waiting



- Example: Abraham & Sarah (Genesis 18:10–15; 21:1–2)
- They waited decades for God's promise. Abraham's faith and prayers carried them even when Sarah doubted.

Application

Every marriage will face seasons of waiting. Couples must keep praying together instead of letting frustration pull them apart.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. What "waiting season" has challenged your faith as a couple?
- 2. How can you support your spouse in prayer when they feel discouraged?

Prayer Invites God's Power Into Family Struggles



- Example: Isaac & Rebekah (Genesis 25:21)
- Isaac prayed on behalf of his wife when she could not conceive. God answered and gave them children.

Application

Husbands and wives should intercede for one another's needs.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. In what areas of life do you feel your spouse needs your prayer right now?
- 2. How can you make interceding for each other a regular habit in your marriage

Prayer Transforms Personal Pain Into Household Blessings



- Example: Elkanah & Hannah (1 Samuel 1:9–20)
- Hannah's tears turned into triumph through prayer. Elkanah didn't fully understand but still supported her.

Application

Prayer can turn personal sorrow into family strength.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Do you feel safe sharing your deepest struggles with your spouse? Why or why not?
- 2. How can you better support your spouse when they are praying through pain?

Prayer Unlocks God's Promises in Old Age and Difficulty



- Example: Zechariah & Elizabeth (Luke 1:5–25)
- They prayed for years without seeing results. In old age, God answered and blessed them with John the Baptist.

Application

Couples must not give up praying—even if years go by without answers

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Have you ever been tempted to stop praying for something in your marriage?
- 2. What does it look like for a couple to remain faithful while waiting on God's timing?

Prayer Empowers Couples in Ministry Together



- Example: Aquila & Priscilla (Acts 18:24–26)
- While Scripture doesn't show a direct prayer scene, their unity in teaching and ministry reflects a lifestyle of prayer.

Application

Prayer equips couples for service beyond their home.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. How has your marriage been a blessing to others through prayer or ministry?
- 2. What's one way you can begin praying for your shared purpose as a couple?

Role Play

• 1. Financial Stress:

Scenario: Bills piling up, unexpected expenses, or disagreements about money.

• 2. Parenting Challenges:

Scenario: Disciplining children, guiding teens, or struggling with infertility.

• 3. Health Issues:

Scenario: One spouse battling sickness, mental health struggles, or caregiving burdens

• 4. Career Decisions:

Scenario: Job loss, a new opportunity, relocation, or balancing work/life.

Role Play

• 5. Conflict & Miscommunication:

Scenario: Frequent arguments, misunderstandings, or emotional distance.

• 6. Extended Family Pressure:

Scenario: In-laws, blended families, or cultural/religious differences.

• 7. Spiritual Dryness:

Scenario: One or both spouses struggling in faith, neglecting prayer or worship.

• 8. Major Life Transitions:

Scenario: Moving, retirement, empty nest, or welcoming a new baby.

Role Play

• 9. Community & Ministry Service:

Scenario: Deciding how to serve at church, volunteer, or support missions.

• 10. Marital Intimacy:

Scenario: Struggles with physical intimacy, emotional closeness, or trust.

Thanksgiving Prayers:

Thanking God for each other, the marriage, and His blessings.

Example: "Lord, we thank You for bringing us together and for every blessing in our marriage."

Intercessory Prayers:

Praying for your spouse's needs, health, growth, and calling.

Example: "Father, strengthen my spouse in their work and draw them closer to You daily."

Repentance & Forgiveness:

Prayers Asking God's forgiveness for wrongs done in the marriage and releasing bitterness.

Example: "Lord, forgive us when we hurt one another. Help us to forgive quickly and love deeply."

Guidance & Wisdom Prayers:

Seeking God's direction for decisions, finances, children, and future plans.

Example: "God, guide us in the choices we face and align our will with Yours."

Protection Prayers

Covering your marriage, home, and family with God's protection.

Example: "Lord, guard our hearts and keep our marriage safe from division and attack."

Unity & Love Prayers

Asking God to deepen love, intimacy, and unity in the relationship.

Example: "Father, bind us together in Your love and make us one in spirit."

Healing & Restoration Prayers:

Inviting God to heal wounds, restore trust, and renew joy in marriage.

Example: "God, bring healing to areas where we are broken and restore the joy of our union."

Missional/Kingdom Prayers:

Praying for your marriage to be a light and blessing to others.

Example: "Lord, let our marriage reflect Your love and be a testimony to others."

Weekly Prayers



- Monday Thanksgiving
- Tuesday Intercession
- Wednesday Guidance
- Thursday Unity
- Friday Protection
- Saturday Healing
- Sunday Mission

The strongest marriages are not built on just love, but on shared prayer.



Closing Challenge

- - Abraham & Sarah: Pray in seasons of waiting.
- - Isaac & Rebekah: Pray for your spouse's needs.
- Elkanah & Hannah: Pray through pain and support each other.
- - Zechariah & Elizabeth: Keep praying—God's timing is perfect.
- - Aquila & Priscilla: Pray for unity in ministry and purpose.



Closing Prayer for Couples

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of marriage and the power of prayer. Like Abraham and Sarah, help us to trust You in seasons of waiting. Like Isaac and Rebekah, teach us to intercede for each other's needs. Like Elkanah and Hannah, give us strength to turn our pain into prayer. Like Zechariah and Elizabeth, keep us faithful as we wait on Your promises. And like Aquila and Priscilla, unite us in purpose so our marriage blesses others. Lord, make our home a house of prayer. Keep our hearts humble, our faith strong, and our love for one another rooted in You. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Contact

Rev. Dr. David Anthony Spencer, Jr.

pastordasjr@gmail.com

678.689.5408

Regional Director of Spiritual Health

Wellstar Health System