

2024 COVENANT LIFE CHURCH'S 37 DAY FAST

[January 1st through February 6th]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6th

Ministering to my spouse in the New Year.

Genesis 2:18-25 [NLT] *Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.”¹⁹ So the Lord God formed from the ground all the wild animals and all the birds of the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would call them, and the man chose a name for each one.²⁰ He gave names to all the livestock, all the birds of the sky, and all the wild animals. But still there was no helper just right for him.²¹ So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. While the man slept, the Lord God took out one of the man’s ribs and closed up the opening.²² Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib, and he brought her to the man.²³ “At last!” the man exclaimed. “This one is bone from my bone, and flesh from my flesh! She will be called ‘woman,’ because she was taken from ‘man.’”²⁴ This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.²⁵ Now the man and his wife were both naked, but they felt no shame.*

THOUGHT for TODAY:

Being married is supposed to be the mirror reflection of Christ's relationship to His Bride, the Church. Jesus gave all of Himself to see the Church birthed while seeing hundreds of millions of people come into the Kingdom of God. Jesus is selfless, this is how we should be towards our spouse. Jesus is kind and loving, this is the way we should be towards our spouse. Jesus forgives, this is the way we should be towards our spouse. Jesus believes there is greatness in you, we should speak this and believe this about our spouse. Jesus is one with the church, we should be one, completely united, with our spouse. And Jesus never casts shame towards us therefore we should be naked (*spiritually, emotionally, mentally*) and feel no shame in our marriage.

SCRIPTURES:

Ephesians 4:17 [NIV] *“Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.”*

Colossians 3:18-19 [MESS] *“Wives, understand and support your husbands by submitting to them in ways that honor the Master.¹⁹ Husbands, go all out in love for your wives. Don’t take advantage of them.”*

PRAYER: Father, help me to love my spouse the way they need to be loved. I want to love them with Your love. Forgive me where I have been harsh, bitter, or unforgiving. I declare Your Word over them to be everything You have created them to do and become. I love my spouse with all my heart. I believe in my spouse. I will support my spouse. I am for them and not against them. They are the perfect one for me to walk in this lifetime and for our marriage to be the reflection of You and the Church. I ask for Your strength and blessing in the name of Jesus, amen!

WHAT TO PRAY:

- Take responsibility to build your spouse's self-esteem because it is essential in keeping your love alive and in keeping a critical spirit from developing in you.
- Friendship is the foundation of all good marriages. And the foundation of friendship is having fun and enjoying life together. Have fun! Enjoy one another!
- The greatest marriage is where two servants are in love. A servant spirit is the key to success in marriage and every important relationship. You are never more like Jesus than when you are serving your spouse.
- Know the little things about your spouse, their likes, and dislikes, what makes them happy and sad, and what are some of their favorite things to do, have, eat, etc. Meet those needs when possible.
- No one is perfect, so be willing to say, *“I am sorry,”* and *“Please forgive me, I was wrong.”* These nine words are part of the foundation of a long, lasting, vibrant, and healthy marriage.

WORSHIP SONG: “King of Kings” (Lyric Video) / Hillsong Worship
<https://youtu.be/Of5IcFWiEpg?feature=shared>

TODAY, I NEED TO PRAY FOR: _____

WHAT IS THE LORD SAYING TO ME TODAY? _____