

OCTOBER 21 – 1 CORINTHIANS 7:5

Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. Pray that God will prepare the hearts of the couples to understand the extent to which any physical, emotional, mental, or spiritual factors are affecting sexual intimacy. Pray that the Lord will provide guidance as the couples address these issues. Pray for couples to increase companionship, commitment, passion, and intimacy.

OCTOBER 22 – 1 CORINTHIANS 11:3

But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God. Pray that every man attending the Men's Breakfast and/or THE WEEKEND will accept God's design for marriage. Pray for husbands to love like the Savior and lead like a servant. Pray that husbands will understand their role as the family leader and ask the Lord for godly character and wisdom. Pray that men will commit to live their lives submitted to the control of the Holy Spirit.

OCTOBER 23 - GENESIS 2:23-25

Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed. Pray that all of the couples will recognize that sex is a gift from God and that an attitude of giving establishes oneness. Pray God will prepare the hearts of the couples to be able to appreciate, affirm, renew, and rebuild intimacy. Pray that the marriage relationship will truly reflect God's plan for the family. Pray also for those who may not be able to be intimate with each other and that couples will truly surrender their sex life to the Lord, that their thinking about sex will be aligned with God's thoughts and purposes.

OCTOBER 24 – ROMANS 6:8-14

Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death He died He died to sin, once for all, but the life He lives He lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. Pray that all couples will turn from sexual sin and run from all temptation. Pray that any bondage to sin would be broken (emotional and/or physical relationships outside of marriage; homosexuality, pornography, romantic fantasies, etc.).

OCTOBER 25 – PROVERBS 31:10-12 (NIV)

A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life. Pray that all women attending will personally embrace God's design of their roles as wives and mothers. Pray for women to prioritize wisely. Pray that Jesus Christ will be each woman's first love. Pray for guidance from the Holy Spirit for each woman to love Jesus, her husband, and her children with all her heart. Pray for the women to have open hearts regarding the definition of "helper." Pray that each woman would be genuinely awed by the honor God has bestowed on her.

OCTOBER 26 – JOSHUA 24:14-15

"Now therefore fear the LORD and serve Him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." Pray that every couple will commit to leaving a godly legacy. Ask God to guide them in a commitment to influence the next generation of believers. Pray that the Lord will give them the courage to persevere through all challenges and difficulties.

OCTOBER 27 – EPHESIANS 6:10-13

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Pray that each couple attending the retreat would have an understanding of God's spiritual armor and the importance of being armed as they lead their families through the battles of daily life in our fallen world. Pray that couples will lean on the power of the Holy Spirit to deal with the challenges they will face.

OCTOBER 28 – PSALM 100 (NIV)

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations. Pray this scripture on behalf of the couples. Rejoice in what God will do in hearts and homes through this event

OCTOBER 29 – JAMES 1:22 (NASB)

But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. Pray that couples who heard the truths of God's Word about marriage would now put them into practice.

OCTOBER 30 – EPHESIANS 4:32 (NASB)

Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. Pray that kindness, tenderness and forgiveness will be values in each marriage that are practiced continuously.

OCTOBER 31 – EPHESIANS 5:33

Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

THE WEEKEND Marriage Conference is finished. Couples have heard the truth about relationships. In these marriage relationships, may the husband deeply love his wife as Christ loves the church and may the wife respect her husband and be his greatest cheerleader.

PRAYER

We believe that prayer connects us with the presence and the power of almighty God. It is through prayer that the lives of people, the church, communities, and nations can be changed; bringing salvation, healing, comfort, and God's blessing.



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COMPELLED TO PRAY

October 2018

SPECIAL MARRIAGE EDITION

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FOR THE LOVE OF CHRIST COMPELS US...
2 CORINTHIANS 5:14

NORTHSIDE

Today, marriages are faced with many challenges and we have seen even strong marriages straining under the pressure of this fast-paced world. Northside is committed to providing support for couples so they can thrive and grow stronger together as they face these challenges. We are asking our members to pray during the month of October specifically for marriages. Please use this prayer guide to pray scripture over marriages as we prepare for Northside's Marriage Conference: THE WEEKEND.

OCTOBER 1 – DEUTERONOMY 33:27 (NIV)

The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. He will drive out your enemy before you, saying, "Destroy him!" Acknowledge that there is an enemy who is opposed to the work being done to rescue and restore marriages, families, and homes. The ultimate opposition is toward the sharing of the gospel, the truth that sets all mankind free. Acknowledge that God is greater!

OCTOBER 2 – PSALM 33:20-22

Our soul waits for the LORD; He is our help and our shield. For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His holy name. Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You. Pray that the couples who attend will be spiritually attentive to God and that they will believe that He can answer their heartfelt questions, address their concerns, and meet their deepest needs.

OCTOBER 3 – PSALM 51:6 (NIV)

Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Pray that each couple attending will clearly hear what God has to say to them. Pray that God's Word will penetrate each heart and mind and that each person will respond truthfully.

OCTOBER 4 – 1 CORINTHIANS 14:40 (NASB)

But all things must be done properly and in an orderly manner. Pray over the details and logistics of the retreat: for the preparation of the facility; for the lighting, sound, temperature, seating, safety, food preparation and serving, parking, and the technical equipment. Pray for any other details the Holy Spirit brings to mind.

OCTOBER 5 – MATTHEW 8:26-27

And He said to them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" Then He rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. And the men marveled, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey Him?" Ask God to remove every hindrance that might keep couples from attending the retreat – childcare issues, weather, illness, conflict, etc. Ask the Most High God to clear their paths, to allow them to participate.

OCTOBER 6 – MATTHEW 6:33-34 (NIV)

"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Pray that all of the couples attending will be able to transition from the busyness of their week to being still and quiet, where their spirits are able to receive God's Word. Pray that hearts will be tender and eager to learn and apply the Biblical principles that are presented. Pray for protection from distractions.

OCTOBER 7 – PROVERBS 17:22

A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones. Pray for the couples, that they will have peace and be protected from the enemy. Pray against discouragement and for them to persevere through any obstacles the enemy has put or will put in their way. Pray that each individual will not harden his or her heart to the Holy Spirit and will receive correction through each session's teaching.

OCTOBER 8 – HEBREWS 4:12-13

For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. Pray that God would peel away any layers of deception at work in the couples attending the retreat and that each person would see him or herself honestly. Pray that all will have an openness to share with their spouses honestly. Ask God to stir their hearts so that oneness will be the desire of their souls.

OCTOBER 9 – PROVERBS 24:3-4

By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches. Pray that, as Biblical principles are taught, the couples will be able to respond with humility and openness. Pray that self-centered desires and motives would be forsaken and replaced with Christ likeness. Pray that, where needed, each spouse will give the other honesty, forgiveness, and gentleness.

OCTOBER 10 – ECCLESIASTES 3:1, 7

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven... a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak. Pray that each couple would be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger. Pray that anger and resentment would not be allowed to grow, and that walls built by anger will be brought down. Pray that the Lord will bring hope to every heart as each spouse embraces God's design and purpose for their marriage.



OCTOBER 11 – JOHN 17:22–23 (NIV)

"I have given them the glory that You gave me that they may be one as We are one: I in them and You in Me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that You sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me." Pray that each couple attending will understand that a godly marriage is a picture of God's glory in the world. Pray that couples will receive God's truth for marriage and begin to live according to His purpose, reflecting God's image, mutually completing each other, and developing a godly legacy.

OCTOBER 12 – GENESIS 1:28

And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth." Pray for any couples who have lost a child or who are unable to have children – that they will be comforted by the Lord. Ask God to restore their joy and hope, and to heal any anger or resentment this situation may have brought to their marriage.

OCTOBER 13 – GENESIS 2:24 (NASB)

For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh. Pray that each couple will end any unhealthy dependence on his or her parents. Ask the Lord to draw the spouses together and bind them to each other emotionally, physically, and spiritually. Pray that each couple will allow God to use their differences as individuals to make them stronger as a couple.

OCTOBER 14 – 2 CORINTHIANS 10:5 (NIV)

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. Pray this scripture for each person who may be dealing with issues of abuse, infidelity, or addiction. Ask the Lord to destroy every effort of Satan to defeat oneness and every human excuse to reject God's plan. Pray for complete healing and restoration.

OCTOBER 15 – 2 PETER 3:9

The Lord is not slow to fulfill His promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. Pray that God will create a hunger in the soul of each person and draw all to Himself through the Holy Spirit. Pray that all will understand the depth of God's love for them individually. Pray that nothing will hinder the truth from being heard and received.

OCTOBER 16 – PSALM 51:3

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Pray that each unbeliever or seeker in attendance will truly understand the depth of his or her depravity and isolation from God. Pray that the Holy Spirit will awaken and call them to salvation through Jesus Christ.

OCTOBER 17 – LUKE 11:13

"If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" Pray that each couple will be filled with the Holy Spirit. Pray that all will understand what the Holy Spirit does in their lives and what it means to be controlled by the Holy Spirit. Pray that couples will spend time in God's Word, pray together, fellowship with other believers, and confess sin and turn from it when it occurs. Pray that the fruit of the Spirit will become increasingly evident.

OCTOBER 18 – JAMES 4:1-2

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. Pray that the couples will understand the damage caused by anger and bitterness. Pray that husbands and wives will have the courage to resolve their conflicts, taking personal responsibility for what they have done. Pray for couples to walk humbly through the process of resolving conflict with the goal of attaining oneness.

OCTOBER 19 – JOHN 13:34

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another." Pray that each person attending will choose to love in obedience to Christ. Pray they will choose to be generous with forgiveness and will offer encouragement to those who need it.

OCTOBER 20 – PSALM 13:2-3, 5 (NIV)

How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and every day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me? Look on me and answer, O LORD my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death... But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. Pray for those people who may be struggling with depression. Pray that they will be willing to seek counsel. Ask God to make clear to them any root issues that might be feeding their depression. Pray also for understanding as couples hear about loving confrontation – that the Holy Spirit will prepare their hearts to share, receive, and respond.