

# Whole Families



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## Christ In You Adores Your Spouse

In a recent follow up Mrs. N shared her struggle with anger and disrespect for her husband. She again had thoughts of past offenses interrupting the peace in her heart. The pain was once again nearly unbearable as it was the first time before she had truly forgiven. I gently told her that it was bitterness or un-forgiveness that was the heart problem. Bitterness always destroys the vessel that contains it. The Bible says that Christ makes his temple in you when you yield your life to him (1 Corinthians 3:16 & Ephesians 1:13) The Bible says that flesh and blood are not what we wrestle against (Ephesians 6:12) As a true Christian, you then are the temple of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit in you adores your spouse, father, mother....etc. but He does not adore their sin (only the sinner). If the Holy Spirit in you adores your spouse then what in you would not adore your spouse. Whatever in you does not adore your spouse is unholy and must be removed. In this example it was bitterness, but it could be resentment, un-forgiveness, hatred, revenge, or mistrust etc. Asked the Holy Spirit to examine your heart and determine what is out of order. Then take all the pain others have caused you to Jesus in prayer and asked God to replace it with His peace (His presence). Next cancel the emotional pain debt account (repent of the unholy bitterness) and notice that your heart will adore your spouse before you even see new change in them. This advice also works for all other coworkers, family, or friends!

Remember that your spouse male or female is God's child before they are your spouse just as your children are Gods children before they are yours. Both are on loan to you from God. You do not answer to each other for the way that you treat each other. You answer to God for the way you treat others. Do not allow your prayers to be hindered or cut off because of your disunity in marriage. (1 Peter 3:7)

In any conflict there are two sides like on a two way street with a line down the middle. As you read my words today you only have the responsibility to sweep your side of the street, you take care of your own issues before God but don't put your broom on the other side of the street or try to bring conviction to others, only pray fervently for them. Let God show them through your behavior all he wants from them! (1 Peter 3:1-2)

Remember the Bible says; "and forgive us our debts, as we ourselves have forgiven our debtors." (Matt. 6:12), and "For if you forgive others their sins, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, your Father will not forgive you your sins." (Matt. 6:14-15) It appears from these passages that forgiveness is a personal salvation issue.

### Supporting Scriptures

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" 1 Corinthians 3:16 KJV

"In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise," Ephesians 1:13 KJV

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Ephesians 6:12 KJV

"In the same way you married men should live considerately with [your wives], with an intelligent recognition [of the marriage relation], honoring the woman as [physically] the weaker, but [realizing that you] are joint heirs of the grace (God's unmerited favor) of life, in order that your prayers may not be hindered and cut off. " 1 Peter 3:7-11 AMPC

"And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." Luke 6:31 KJV

"In the same way, wives, be subject to your own husbands. Then, even if some are disobedient to the word, they will be won over without a word by the way you live, when they see your pure and reverent conduct." 1 Peter 3:1-2 NET

"and forgive us our debts, as we ourselves have forgiven our debtors. Matthew 6:12 NET

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