

**Prayer Topic:**

**A Declaration for Healthy and Happy Marriages in the Body of Christ**

**Scripture Reading:**

Psalm 98, Genesis 2:15-25

**Reflections of the Heart:**

Marriage is not just a relationship; it's a covenant. You're not just committed to a person; you're committed to a purpose – one that God designed from the beginning to bring Him glory. Since it was designed by the Creator Himself, He alone is the best reference for maintaining and enjoying it.

**Scriptural Prayer:**

Exalted Father, thank You for Your great love that continues from generation to generation! Thank You for the married couples in the Body of Christ. Thank You for encouraging and blessing our marriages. With our whole being we praise You. We rejoice in knowing that You are our God, and that we are the people You watch over and the flock under Your care. Thank You, Lord! We bless Your holy Name! We stand in awe of You and Your unfailing love for us. You are the Master who motivates our hearts toward all that is good. We acknowledge Your sovereignty over our marriages. We will sing a new song to You, Lord, for the wonderful deeds You have done. We shout with joy and worship You with gladness. We come before You singing with joy. You are the Lord, our Father, who made us and we are Yours!

Holy Spirit, as the Body of Christ, we expect You to lead us into all truth as it pertains to the covenant of marriage. We confess that our married couples are never subject to the spirit of fear; but they have power, love and self-discipline to help them keep their covenant pure. Lord, we confess that our husbands will live with their wives according to knowledge and they will cherish them as the manifested gift of God's favor. We declare that our wives will honor their husbands and will adorn themselves as Sarah did, not with material elegance, but with a quiet and peaceful spirit which You love, Lord God. As the Body of Christ, we confess that our married couples will daily aspire to the greater love that Jesus personified and live a servant's life before one another. We declare that they will provoke one another to good works and celebrate one another's gifts. We confess that they will commit to encourage and build one another up in the Lord!

Holy Spirit, help each spouse to keep a heart of unconditional love for their mate. Reveal creative ways for our married couples to love and enjoy each other. Heal wounds and hurts and rejoin marriages that seem to be walking down separate paths. Teach them to freely issue mercy and to forgive quickly without allowing grudges to form. Magnify the model of marriage through those who have healthy marriages, so that others are inspired and encouraged. Anoint their unity together as husbands and wives, so that their children will be given stability and assurance, and the unsaved will be given hope concerning the sanctity of marriage. Re-light the passion and fire for those who are struggling sexually and emotionally. When our married couples speak of one another, whether in public or private, please season their tongues with grace. Help our married couples to stay committed to truth and to cover one another's weaknesses with unyielding love.

***Father, as a spouse, I commit to making my marriage better by:***

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***Father, as a single person, I commit to praying for the following marriage(s):***

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Holy Father, forgive our married couples for being too stubborn to offer grace and mercy to their spouses when they should have. Forgive those who have neglected their commitment to their spouse, sexually, emotionally and relationally. Where those couples have grown cold-hearted, make their hearts tender toward their spouses. Forgive them for the times they've become so distracted with the cares of this world that they have neglected

their responsibility to one another. Father, forgive me for ***(list any sins that you have committed)***. Holy Spirit, remind our married couples of those they need to forgive and help them to be quick to forgive. As for me, Holy Spirit, bring to my remembrance those I need to forgive. ***(Take a moment and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal names or faces of people that you may need to forgive. As He reveals them, say, "I forgive name of person(s)." Now, trust the Lord to heal any wounds in your soul caused by unforgiveness.)***

Holy Spirit, help our married couples not to yield to temptation but deliver them from the evil one.

We worship You, O Great Deliverer! All praise belongs to You. You are the Lord God of Israel who alone does such wonderful things. We will praise Your glorious Name forever. Let the whole earth be filled with Your glory, in Jesus' Name, Amen!

**Scripture References for the Written Text:** Psalm 103:17, Psalm 95:7, Psalm 98:1, Psalm 100:1-3, John 14:17, II Timothy 1:7, Proverbs 18:22, I Peter 3:3-7, John 15:13, Hebrews 10:24, I Thessalonians 5:11, Colossians 4:6, I Peter 4:8, Psalm 72:18-19

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