"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." Genesis 2:24

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RESTORATION OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MAN & WOMAN TO CREATE A CULTURE OF HOLINESS

A Culture of Holiness is Found in God's Word.

God's design for man and woman was one of complete and perfect unity, "one flesh." This infers and requires a very deep intimacy and harmony with each other and also together with God. Egos and minds, by nature, will differentiate and diverge, but souls united in God's will to harmonize.

A culture of holiness is man and woman in deep harmony and unity.

Part of "Restoring Eden" is restoring the brokenness between man and woman that originated with the fall in Eden. All of our fundamental impulses come from God's divine design. They have degraded into warped versions of God's originals. Part of "Restoring Eden" is to restore those impulses to their original divine form and function, and to cultivate godly character and virtues.

Restoring the Relationship Between Man and Woman OUR FOCUS IN 2024: WE ARE INTERCEDING FOR RESTORATION

Keys to Restoring Eden:

- Restoring what was lost or damaged in the Garden of Eden with the fall of man and woman.
- ✦ Applying the New Covenant as the antidote to what was lost with the fall.
- Finding and proclaiming from the New Covenant the counter to everything that was lost or damaged in the fall in Eden.
- Finding and applying through proclamation God's promises for restoration: His love, mercy and grace.
- Remember: God's Word Provides a Roadmap for Creating a Culture of Holiness.

Coming Before Lord God Adonai

- Dear Lord God Adonai, just Judge, as Intercessors standing in the gap for our beloved America, we come before You to petition for restoration of the relationship between man and woman, as You designed it to be. We stand in the gap seeking to restore the impulses, tendencies, habits of men and women to their original divine blueprint relationship that You created.
- We come before You interceding for our nation, to heal the rift between men and women; to transform the current dysfunctional norms to happy, healthy and harmonious norms; to heal all the sources and causes of strife including egoism, competitiveness, selfishness, pridefulness, narcissism, stubbornness, rebelliousness, misogyny; and to pray for their deliverance from demonic familiar spirits that are at the source of

relational strife, personal dysfunction and projection of flaws and dangers which cause people, especially women, to file for divorce.

Restoring Marriage

- Heavenly Father, we petition for restoration of marriage as You intended between a man and woman, that it be held in honor amongst all people, and the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous, according to Hebrews 13:4.
- We petition for men and women to receive Your revelation, heart to heart, spirit to spirit; the vision, desire and conviction for true oneness for which You designed us, according to Matthew 19:4-6: "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."
- Heavenly Father, touch and heal the hearts and souls of Your sons and daughters, from stoney to loving, from cynical to sincere, from faithless to faithful, from demonized to liberated, from prideful to submissive humility, that they will no longer be flippant and casual about breaking their marriage commitments and vows. Fill them with an overflowing love for each other and for You, an overflowing joy and hope for the promises of their marriage union.
- Father God, Ephesians 5:22-32 provides a blueprint for godly husbands and wives.
 - Father God, help men to be a place of safety for their wives, so that their wives feel safety, joy and even relief in subjecting themselves to their husbands; that it is not an action of

demeaning, but a means of being protected and provided for in loving support; where the woman can rest into safety and security. "Wives, subject yourselves to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything." Heavenly Father, we understand this is not an instruction or excuse for abuse and degrading, for chauvinism and misogyny; that all of this is out of mutual love, where neither party takes advantage of the other. You created men to be the protector and provider for woman, to guard the garden to let in no snakes, no danger. Restore Your men to godly protectors and providers, who do so with love and from love.

- Lord God, convict Your men that loving unselfishly is being Christlike. "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless."
- Dear Heavenly Father, convict and inspire Your daughters to win through gentleness of spirit, rather than competitiveness and willfulness; as 1 Peter 3:1-4 advises: "Wives, in the same way submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading

beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight."

- Dear Heavenly Father, convict and inspire Your daughters to want to be holy women, as 1 Peter 3:1, 5-6 shares: "For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to adorn themselves. They submitted themselves to their own husbands, like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her lord. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear." Heavenly Father, help women to not be afraid to be giving and giving over to their husbands.
- Lord God, heal the hearts and souls of our men, that they can and will love women as You intended them to love women: heart to heart, soul to soul, unconditionally, with kindness, respect and purity. As Ephesians 5:28-30 advises: "So husbands also ought to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, because we are parts of His body."
- Father God, just as You have placed Your law in their hearts, according to Jeremiah 31:31, place and awaken in the hearts of men and women Your desire for them to truly become one, submitting personal willfulness for a joy to be one in Christ Jesus. *"For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."* Truly, when we want to know YOUR heart and live in YOUR will, harmony is possible and even assured. There is no longer a battle of wills.

Therefore Heavenly Father, we petition for the fulfillment of Ephesians 5:33, that "each husband shall love his own wife the same as himself, and the wife respects her husband."

Dying to Self

- Dear Heavenly Father, we understand that most clashes between two people have their source in the ego. So we commit to living in the operating system of dying daily to self, as St. Paul the Apostle exhorted. In this way, we aspire to loving one another as You and Jesus Christ love us. We petition for men and women to choose to live in the commitment of dying to self, to cultivate unselfish love as Jesus Christ taught and modeled for all of us; that they are choosing to love each other through selfless service and choosing to do unto each other as they would have done unto themselves; small acts of kindness; daily considerations.
- Lord God, may Your sons and daughters live Galatians 2:20, which provides a model for dying to ego self: "I have been crucified with Christ [that is, in Him I have shared His crucifixion]; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body I live by faith [by adhering to, relying on, and completely trusting] in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me."
- Heavenly Father, may today's men and women choose to live in Galatians 5:24-26, which says: "If we [claim to] live by the [Holy] Spirit, we must also walk by the Spirit [with personal integrity, godly character, and moral courage—our conduct empowered by the Holy Spirit]. We must not become conceited, challenging or provoking one another, envying one another."

 Heavenly Father, may Your sons and daughters truly and fully take hold of Ephesians 4:22-24, which instructs: "Regarding my previous way of life, I put off my old self [completely discard your former nature], which is being corrupted through deceitful desires, and be continually renewed in the spirit of my mind [having a fresh, untarnished mental and spiritual attitude], and put on the new self [the regenerated and renewed nature], created in God's image, in the righteousness and holiness of the truth [living in a way that expresses to God my gratitude for my salvation]." Help them Lord God, to let go of grudges and past offenses and truly forgive each other. If we can individually put on a new self, then we can surely put on a new self to our relationship with one another and start afresh.

Focus on the Good

We pray, Lord God, that Your sons and daughters will take hold of Philippians 4:8 and say: "I commit to focusing on the good: whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy think about such things." Truly Heavenly Father, when we focus on a person's virtues and good, that person is more encouraged and likely to live out those good qualities and virtues.

Faith & Forgiveness

◆ Dear Heavenly Father, a little humility can go a long way in a relationship, including providing the other person an opportunity to forgive. We pray for a true spirit of humility to be loosed across our nation, as a foundation for healthy, harmonious and restored relationships. We loose James 5:16, which encourages: "Therefore

confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

- Heavenly Father, we pray that Ephesians 4:29, 31-32 will be planted in the hearts and souls of Your sons and daughters: "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."
- Dear Father God, convict Your children to live Luke 17:3-4: "If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying 'I repent,' you must forgive them."
- Lord God, we proclaim Matthew 6:14-15 and petition for it to take hold in the hearts of men and women: "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."
- Genuine apology and repentance can melt offenses, hurts and wounds, as Genesis 50:17 demonstrates: "I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly. Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father.' When their message came to him, Joseph wept." Lord God, we pray for Your sons and daughters to be convicted of humility and moved to apologize when they have caused hurt; in so doing, not only heal relationships but grow them to a deeper expression and experience.

Living Together in God's Will

- Dear Heavenly Father, so much strife between two people comes from bucking heads over competitive wills. Yet when two people are both committed to living Your Will, they are in fundamental harmony. We petition that the desire to give over to Your Will and truly *live* in Your Will is loosed into the atmosphere, as a Glory cloud of Your Presence and Your Heart pervading our lands.
- Heavenly Father, let Your mighty warring angels bind the spirit of stubbornness and the spirit of rebellion, because as 1 Samuel 15:23 warns: "For rebellion is like the sin of divination and arrogance like the evil of idolatry." Heal the cause of their proliferation in our culture dear Lord God.
- We loose Proverbs 3:57 across America and to all of our leaders, and petition You to awaken this Word in the hearts of men and women: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes."

Restoring Love

Dear Heavenly Father, standing in the gap for our country's soul, in order to restore godliness to our version of and capacity for love, we loose Your Word about love, 1 Corinthians 13:4-7: "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." Let these Words find their home in the hearts of men and women across our land, and truly take root to refine their character. Pour out Your mercy and grace to water

these seeds, that they make grow and bear the fruits of true love, true charity, which are unselfishness, kindness and patience. May Your sons and daughters be convicted to:

- Walk in Love: As Ephesians 5:1-2 instructs: "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma."
- Love as God Loves: As 1 John 4:7-8 exhorts: "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love."
- ✦ Faithfulness: As Romans 13:8 advises: "Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law."
- Forgiveness: As Ephesians 4:32 exhorts: "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you." And as Colossians 3:13 says: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."
- Temperance: As James 1:19-20 says: "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."
- Patience: As Ephesians 4:2-3 encourages: "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."
- ◆ Unity: As 2 Corinthians 13:11 says: "Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you."

The Power of God's Indwelling Love: As 1 John 4:12-13 inspires: "No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: because He has given us of his Spirit. We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him. By this, love is perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, we also are in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear."

Sealing Prayer:

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"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." 1 John 3:16-18

> "Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins." 1 Peter 4:8

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