

# BUILDING A SACRED MARRIAGE, PART 4

## A CHRIST CENTERED MARRIAGE

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### DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION

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1. Why is patience such an integral component in a marriage where the ultimate goal is holiness rather than happiness?
2. What is the most difficult thing in your marriage to be patient about? What do you think is the most difficult aspect of your character for your spouse to be patient about?

***For Married Couples***

*Read through 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 together. How can your marriage demonstrate God's ministry of reconciliation to others? Discuss specific ways that you can be intentional in displaying the reconciliation that God wants to bring to the whole world through your family, your marriage, and your life at your job, in your home, in your neighborhood, and through your hospitality.*

3. In chapter 7 of Sacred Marriage, author Gary Thomas talks of developing a sacred history of your marriage. Make sure that you both you and your spouse read that chapter together. Which stories should be part of your sacred marriage to be told to your children, family, and friends?

***For Married Couples***

*Plan an evening where you invite other couples to share the sacred stories of yours and their marriages. Give them time to prepare for the evening so that everyone can fully participate. Plan an incredible evening where you make invitations that briefly explain the concept of a sacred marriage story and explain what the evening will look like as each married couple shares their sacred story.*

4. Is Christ truly the center of your marriage? In what ways do you keep Christ at the center of your family and marriage life? In what areas do you not always keep Christ at the center?
  
5. Whom do you most admire for the way that they have built their marriage and handled difficulties? What can you learn from those individuals?
  
6. Do you regularly seek the input of someone else in your marriage? Are you constantly learning from others about how to improve your marriage skills?