

he cause of division and discord in families and in the church is separation from Christ. To come near to Christ is to come near to one another. The secret of true unity in the church and in the family is not diplomacy, not management, not a superhuman effort to overcome difficulties--though there will be much of this to do--but union with Christ.

Picture a large circle, from the edge of which are many lines all running to the center. The nearer these lines approach the center, the nearer they are to one another.

Thus it is in the Christian life. The closer we come to Christ, the nearer we shall be to one another. God is glorified as His people unite in harmonious action. AH 179.

LOVE Devotional

TO BRING BACK
OR
INCREASE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE



Prepared by Pastor Byron K. Hill, Sr. and Mrs. Brenda D. Hill

"Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it" Psalm 127:1

"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me:" John 12:32

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The closer we come to Christ, the nearer we shall he to one another." Adventist Home,179

- 1. Spend at least 30 minutes reading your Bible alone in personal devotion, 7 days a week.
- 2. Start or continue attending Prayer Meeting together immediately.
- 3. Also, attend Sabbath School and church together regularly.
- 4. Buy two hardback copies of the DesireofAges.(Buy new copies that have the same page numbering.)
- 5. Take turns reading one paragraph at a time aloud to each other from lhe Desire of Ages. Have a pen, pencil, or highlighter to mark statements that stand out to you to discuss with one an other after you have read for your allotted time. Place a bookmark where you stopped reading and write the day's date below the paragraph (example: 1/1/98).

6. At the end of the reading, the kind of questions that you should ask one another can be of two types:

Fact questions: "What stood out to you from our reading to day?" or "What did you learn from our-reading?"

Applicationquestions: "How do you apply what you have read to your life?" or "What lesson(s) did you find in this reading today?"

7. After your discussion of the reading, kneel together, hold hands, and each pray (wife prays first) aloud about what you have read, your marriage, and other interests. Don't pray too long. After prayer, hug each other and give each other a compliment or saysomethingnicetoeachother(dothiseveryday). Example: "I like your ________" or "What I appreciate about you is _________" or "I'm glad we got married" or "I love you" (always a winner).

- ☼ If the telephone is prone to interrupt your devotional time, cut it off. It is very important that you not be interrupted.
- If you miss a day or a week, just start over where you left off. Do not double up on your reading.your must give yourselves 90 days to see if this will work.