

A Marriage Minute™

A simple help to make your marriage just a little better this week.



LOVE COMPELS; -SIN REPELS

*"For Christ's love compels us",
-2 Corinthians 5:14*

The quality of our most important relationships is a function of the small decisions we make continually. "Shall I ask her how her day was, or just go turn on the T.V. and relax?" "Do I get off the phone to greet him at the door when I hear the car pull up?" You see, love is a compelling force that moves us toward one another. Sin is a repelling force that causes us to withdraw into our own comfort zone. I may not want to ask my wife how her day went, because maybe I really just don't care at the moment. After all, I'm tired. I worked all day. I just want to plop into my recliner and chill for a bit. The wife may not want to cut short her phone conversation with her best friend when she hears his car pull up. After all, she hasn't talked to her friend all week, and there's much to catch up on. If we're going to love each other we need to let Christ's love compel us toward one another precisely when it means sacrifice. There is no love without sacrifice. In fact, love without sacrifice is use. It's Christ's love that compels us to do whatever it takes to draw closer, even when it means risking conflict. It's sin that causes us to avoid each other. If we find ourselves being repelled, it's not love, for sin repels; love compels.

Question For The Both of Us: Do you feel like I avoid you, or shut you out sometimes because I don't care about what you're going through or just because I want to avoid conflict?

Prayer For The Both of Us: Lord, let your love compel us to be engaged and stay engaged even when we may risk conflict. Keep us from avoiding one another just because it's more comfortable.

This Couples Devotional is brought to you by Marriage & Family Savers Ministries. Visit them at www.marriageandfamily.org

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