

A Marriage Minute

To Help Your Marriage be just a little better today!



GROWING IN ONENESS

"For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility. Speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him, who is the head ---Ephesians 2:14,15

Although, Paul was speaking specifically about the dividing wall between Jews and Gentiles, the principle remains true for all relationships where dividing walls have been erected, even the dividing wall between a husband and a wife. We need to be honest with ourselves. Have we really surrendered our own self-wills to the will God in our marriage? Have we really traded in our self-interests for His purposes? That's the only way the oneness can be achieved. Oneness is not the absorption of one personality into another. Oneness is found when both are willing to conform to God's will, so that it's no longer "my way" or "your way," but it's "His way." Our struggle is not to convince our spouse to our way of thinking. It's for both spouses to work together to find God's way of thinking in a given matter. Paul tells us how to do this. *"...speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him..."* To find that oneness centered in Christ we must be free to speak the truth in love without fear of rejection or judgment, and without trying to dominate our partner's will and thought patterns. No matter how uncomfortable, we must be able to share how we truly feel about the matter and have mutual respect for one another's feelings, whether we agree, or understand it, or not. Our struggle is to work to find agreement concerning God's will in the matter, not our own. As we both remain submitted to the process we grow in oneness day by day. No one's identity gets lost, and God remains in the very center of our relationship.

Question for both of us: Have we been growing in oneness, with God in the center of our relationship?

Prayer for both of us: Lord, help us to put our self-wills aside. Help us to work together to seek your will for every aspect of our lives and marriage. Help us be that cord of three strands with you in the center.

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

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