

## Growing Faith Contributes to a Growing Marriage

NOTES ON VIDEO

All read chapter 7 ahead of time.

We've made it to week 7, and now we're on the final letter of our acronym—S for spiritual. As believers we recognize that we were joined in a spiritual connection when we said "I do," but what does this mean? How do we grow in our faith and act in obedience within our marriage and family life? Let's watch the video, and then we'll chat about how to apply these principals to our lives.

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**QUESTIONS** 

feel this oneness in your marriage? If not, can you pinpoint why it's lacking?

1. Share the first thought that comes to mind with the word "spiritual."

2. Part of the spiritual component of marriage is that the two individuals become one. Do you



Did you fully obey? What blessing followed?

4. Spiritual formation involves obedience. When have you as a couple been asked to obey something difficult?

3. Jess talks about the spiritual disconnect she felt in Ryan's struggle with pornography and how difficult it was for her to reach a point of forgiveness. Do you need to extend grace in your relationship in any area? Where?

SHARE Take a few minutes to introduce yourselves and then share/discuss answers.

The following scriptures address different aspects of spiritual formation. Listen and jot down how they apply to

-John 6:63

READ\_

your life. These can remain private or can be discussed as a group.

and it will be given him." -James 1:2-5

to distinguish good from evil." —Hebrews 5:14

alone." - James 2:23-24

DISCUSS

"Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach,

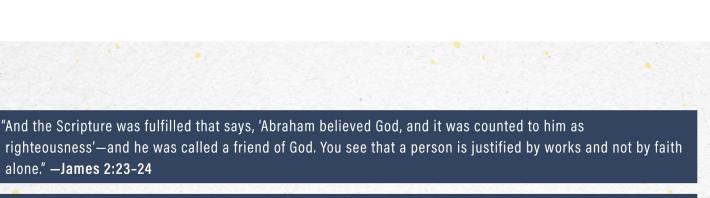
"God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." —John 4:24

not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing." -James 1:22-25 "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." —Matthew 4:4

"But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice

"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and

"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life."



the things you want to do." —Galatians 5:15-17 "For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power." —1 Corinthians 4:20

"But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another. But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing

"And since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful." —Hebrews 10:21-23

2. What are the components for a growing spiritual life?

'peace"

"one-sided"

"needed,

healing,

-Jackie

intimacy"

<u>-</u>Linda

3. What's the purpose of spirituality in our lives?

4. How do these verses apply to our marriage?

1. What feelings arise in your heart as we read these verses?

**EXPLORE** Here are some feelings the word "spirituality" elicited in people:

"concerned"

-Lana

"family core"

-Rachel

rest,

safe"

surrender,

-Annette

"intimate"

-Brittany

"challenging"

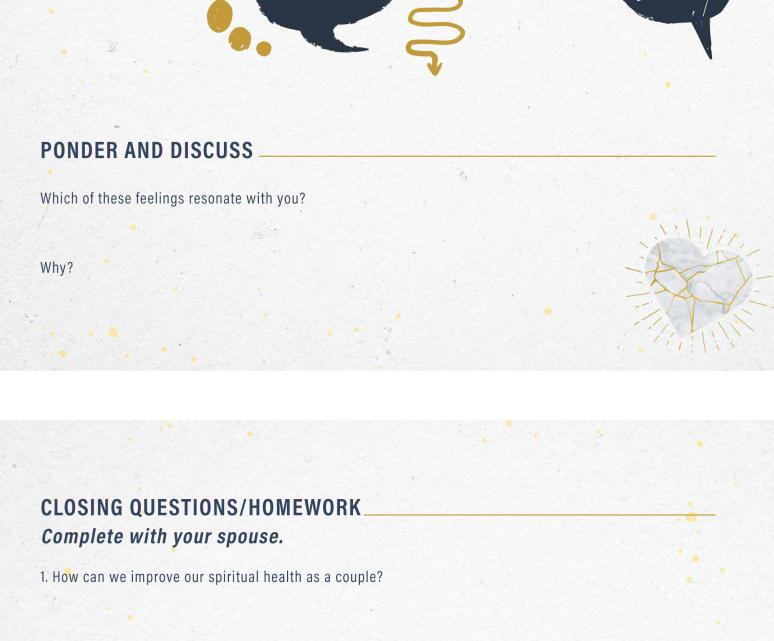
-Leisa

"peace, rest, reflection"

-Coe

"practicality"

-Diane



2. Is there an area we need to be obedient in that we haven't been? (tithing? fostering a child? moving? quitting

3. What is one change we will commit to doing this week?

a job?)

5. Her takeaway:

4. His takeaway:

IF COMFORTABLE, DISCUSS ANSWERS AS A GROUP. Close with prayer.