

RockPointe Church
Feb 2, 2020

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Closer - Week 1
Sunday morning at RockPointe Church!
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No matter where you are in your marriage journey, every couple can draw closer to their spouse by taking a step in the right direction.

"From that day on, half of my men did the work, while the other half were equipped with spears, shields, bows and armor. The officers posted themselves behind all the people of Judah who were building the wall. Those who carried materials did their work with one hand and held a weapon in the other" - Nehemiah 4:16-17 (NIV)

Guard your heart

Guard your heart Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning - Matthew 19:8 (NIV)

Above all else, guard your heart for it is the wellspring of life. - Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)

Guard your heart But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. - 1 Samuel 16:7 (NIV)

Hardness of heart looks like:

- Choosing "me" instead of "we" by thinking of yourself as most important and doing what's best for you.
- Lacking genuine sorrow over sin.
- The small lies and huge lies that you convince yourself are not a big deal.
- Being unteachable.
- Tearing down with words and actions.
- Comparing and contrasting your wrongs against the other and making the judgment that "theirs is worse".
- Responding with defensiveness.
- The need to always be in control.
- Waiting for your spouse to say "I'm sorry first".
- Demanding your spouse change first.
- Focusing more on being right than on becoming righteous.
- The refusal to forgive.
- The refusal to ask for forgiveness.
- Saying you forgive, but never letting go.
- Asking for forgiveness and then going back to do the same thing again and again.
- Justifying your sin because your spouse isn't meeting your needs.

Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye. - Matthew 7:3-5 (NIV)

Guard against sin

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. - Psalms 139:23-24 (NIV)

the waters coming down from above stood and rose up in a heap very far away, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, and those flowing down toward the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. And the people passed over opposite Jericho. Now the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firmly on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan, and all Israel was passing over on dry ground until all the nation finished passing over the Jordan. - Joshua 3:16-17 (NIV)

Build your marriage

- Incorporate the "15 Principle" into each day rpc.fm/enrich.
- Incorporate a heart examen into your routine.
- Incorporate a marriage enrichment "thingie" into your year.

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Hardness of heart list adapted from: <http://www.megmariewallace.com/the-one-thing-guaranteed-to-end-all-marriages/>