

Day Seven Meditation: A Helper is Needed

One of the most difficult parts of a relationship is when you long for more in the relationship, but it is taking a lot of time, especially when the waiting is caused by the one you love who is not longing for more, or they want the relationship to die and go away. This can be heartbreaking, if not at least disappointing. When you were engaged, you were both told at your Engaged Encounter Evenings/Retreat that your relationship, your marriage, is something you both must work on.

Once there was a day when everything in your spouse was focused on “us.” Now, the “us” has been forgotten. Now, all your beloved might be seeing is themselves with their needs and wants, not considering you, or let alone, the “us.” You have tried to move the two of you back to being one, but there is no care or commitment from your husband/wife. You are carrying the entire relationship, and for some, because your husband/wife has completely removed themselves from any future of you being together. Though you live in the same house, you are alone in the marriage, while others have been all together been abandoned. The pain of both of these can be so great that you need something to be done, now, to relieve the overwhelming oppression of your loss.

There is no need to hide the truth, because you have thought it - This is not right! It is not right; you are correct. You might have thought to yourself - I have been ripped off. You have been ripped off; you are correct. Son of the Father, daughter of the Father, this is not what your Father has made available to you through the Sacrament of Matrimony, yet there is the terrible reality of what you are facing. Do not see it for anything other than what it is - It is wrong!

Where do you go from here as you face the facts of your spouse’s stance toward “us?”

Thanks be to God that you are the Father’s daughter, you are His son, and because you are His, He has given you a Gift to strengthen you to continue in the way of righteousness, standing and fighting for your marriage, even though your beloved does not share the same conviction or care. The Gift your Father wants to give you is more than His grace or His blessing. That Gift is a Person who dwells in you through the waters of Baptism. It is the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

We hear that the Holy Spirit was given to us in Baptism, but for many, this is a concept that has nothing to do with daily life. Let me assure you that the Holy Spirit dwelling in you has everything to do with daily life and with the healing of your marriage.

You might even be wondering why I am not getting to the heart of it all by talking about solutions that will save your marriage. Why all this God-talk, focusing on you in relation to God rather than your relationship with your spouse? Your Sacrament is your solution.

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You belong to Jesus. All your life is his, which includes your marriage. At the bottom of it all is not the question of what you are going to do. The question is, what is He, God, going to do, and do you believe that He is ready and waiting for you to allow Him to do what needs to be done? Maybe it boils down to the question of whether you believe that He is good and wants you and your spouse's good, and that the good is the building or restoration of a marriage to the point that others would see and say, *"Now, that's a marriage that I would like to have."*

As you look at where your marriage now stands, that last phrase of the admiration of others of your marriage might be so far away from reality that you have lost hope and can't imagine it.

You need a Helper. His name is the Holy Spirit. He is not far away or is so occupied with the running of the universe that he sees not what you are facing. Actually, the Spirit of Truth sees things, and there is no candy coating to it. What the Spirit knows from dwelling in both of you is far more than either of you could ever see, and because he dwells within you, he also sees all that needs to be healed in each of you for his will for your marriage to come about.

A little primer as to who the Holy Spirit is. For eternity, the Father has loved the Son, and for eternity, the Son has loved the Father. This love for each other is so real that their love is a person, and that person is the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God is the love between the Father and the Son, and that love, the Spirit, was poured into your love on the day Jesus gave you the Sacrament of Matriomny. Every Sacrament is an encounter with the Holy Spirit, an encounter with love that makes available to you the opportunity to grow in love so that you might become more like our God, who is love.

Maybe you have never seen the intimate closeness of the Spirit of the Father and the Son dwelling in you. It is time for your heart to awaken to this truth. You are not alone. You are not abandoned. Since the day of your Baptism, your Constant, Abiding, Companion is with you, ready to help. He is waiting for your permission. We started by acknowledging that, for your marriage to be healed, it is taking time. Right now, this very moment, the time has come for you to give permission to the one who has also been waiting for you to give him permission to come to your aid.

Your flesh, that part of you that wants what it wants when it wants it, and it wants it now, is trying to create a rush in you that will cause you to skip over all this God talk, thinking that techniques are the most important thing you need to fix what is broken. You need not tools; you need a person to come to your aid, first to change you. The enemy of your marriage, the one who hates the idea that Jesus has given you his very life through the Sacrament to make you holy as he is holy, will lay upon you the heavy burden of urgency. Resist him, and he will flee.

This is where faith comes into play. Take your eyes off the relationship of your marriage, placing them on the very one who gave you the gift of your spouse, the Holy Spirit. Ask the Spirit to draw near to you more than you have ever experienced. Let the Spirit know that you want your life to be immersed in the love that he is. It is his love that will heal you from the rejection you have received from your spouse. It is that love that will heal your spouse. Immerse them in the

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love of the Spirit. You have authority over your spouse's life. You can release blessings upon them, and you can bind the works of the enemy in their life.

First, you were challenged to give your life to Jesus. He is the Lord of your life, meaning that you are not in control of your life, and you don't get to do with your life whatever you want. This is real Christianity, not the play type. You need real Christianity, which is life-giving serious. Realizing you need help to be reduced to love, loving beyond love's possibility to love. This life is beyond your ability; it is the very reason why God, your Father, gave you the gift of the Holy Spirit. Your Father never meant for you to live His life by your power. He knew you could not, so the question became, "What are you going to do, Lord?" His answer is the Holy Spirit. I hope your realization of your need for the Spirit is never satisfied, but that you are always chided to want more of the Spirit of Righeouness, the Spirit of Right Relationships.

Ask for more of the Spirit, right now. Do not wait. The real waiting needs to be dealt with today. No more waiting. Don't make him wait. Go for more of the Holy Spirit!