

# Devotion:

Profound dedication, enthusiasm for  
or earnest attachment to.



Devotion *should* be a natural part of marriage. The *profound* dedication and enthusiasm for and *earnest* attachment to, *should* be seen in *every* Christian marriage. Yet, husbands and wives today, even Christian husbands and wives, are *not* devoted to their spouse. They exist together, perhaps tolerating each other, often miserable and arguing every day. Marriage becomes intolerable. I know, I've been there; 35 years ago, I almost gave up on my marriage, BUT, a gracious Heavenly Father intervened and today we have a great marriage. The difference? Of course, God's work in our lives and relationship; but I think a huge difference today is that Carmen and I are DEVOTED to one another.

Devotion isn't a feeling, it isn't something that just happens. Devotion is a choice and a choice that supposedly, each and every one of us made at our wedding when we said our vows. Another way to look at devotion is as a vow. So the question is; are *you* devoted to your spouse? Do you have a profound dedication to your spouse? An enthusiasm for him or her? Are you *earnestly* attached to your spouse? Please honestly consider these questions. What are you devoted to? Yes, we should be devoted to Jesus Christ, but is even that truly devotion? Or is it religiosity? Going through the motions. That would be another question, but for our purposes, I am asking about your spouse - are *you* devoted to him or her?

I ask you to first; examine your heart in this matter. Second, make the decision to be devoted to your spouse and then third, *demonstrate* that devotion. Show your spouse that he or she is the second most important thing on this planet to you - only Jesus is more important. It is not that hard; *tell* your spouse you are devoted to him or her. Show it by truly listening to them - hearing their heart, by paying attention to them and seeking to meet their needs. Do little loving things throughout the day; a text or phone call, sending a card, doing something for them. Do not allow other things or people (even your children) to come before your spouse. I believe that if you do these things, your spouse will notice, and prayerfully will reciprocate.

**Helpful Resources:** *Fortified Marriages Resource page:* [www.fortifiedmarriages.com](http://www.fortifiedmarriages.com)

The *Fortified Marriages Manual and Workbook* is a great tool to help couples develop healthy communication and connect with each other.

**Articles to check out:**

*Becoming a Devoted Spouse and a Good Wife or Husband* by Mike Tucker - [madaboutmarriage.com](http://madaboutmarriage.com)

*10 Ways to Show Devotion to Loved Ones* by Rachael Pace - [www.marriage.com](http://www.marriage.com)