

The Faith to Remain Faithful

April 20, 2008 • Malachi 2:10-16 • Pastor Rob Carlson

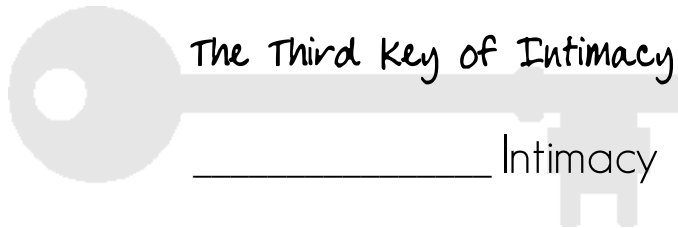


7 Keys to Intimacy

mentally	emotionally	sexually
physically	relationally	financially
spiritually		

>> God's ideal is for a man and a woman to be one _____.

>> God's message in this Scripture is clear: be _____!



4 Steps to Bucking the Trend of Infidelity and Unfaithfulness and Experiencing Faith-Filled Family Living

Step #1 _____ vs. 10, 13, 14

➔ Marriage is more than a legal _____, it is a spiritual _____.

Psalm 66:18--If you have cherished sin in your heart...God will not listen to your prayers.

Proverbs 2:16,17--Wisdom...It will save you from the adulteress, from the wayward wife with her seductive words, who has left the partner of her youth and ignored the covenant she made before God.

Matthew 19:6--What God has joined together let man not separate.

Step #2 _____ vs. 11, 12

➔ _____ faith in marriage often produces _____ family values.

Ezra 9:1, 2--...The people of Israel, including the priests and the Levites, have not kept themselves separate from the neighboring peoples with their detestable practices... They have taken their sons and their daughters as wives for themselves and their sons, and have mingled the holy race with the peoples around them. And the leaders and officials have led the way in this unfaithfulness.

Nehemiah 13:23-27--...led into sin by foreign women.

2 Corinthians 6:14ff--Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?

Step #3 _____ vs. 15, 16

➔ God hates _____ (and adultery) because of the _____ effects it has on _____, people and society.

1 Corinthians 7:14b--Otherwise your children would be unclean but as it is they are holy.

Deuteronomy 11:19--Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Step #4 _____ vs. 16

➔ "So _____ yourself in your spirit and do not _____."

Remember the Rule of the River

If you are floating down the river in a boat, and hit treacherous white water and fall overboard...you must become an active participant in your own rescue.

Small Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why is being on the same page spiritually so important?
2. Review the points and verses from this lesson. What personal application can you make from this teaching?
3. Being one in spirit leads to greater intimacy. What happens when there is a lack of spiritual commitment by one or the other? In what ways does it erode oneness and closeness?
4. Take some time right now to pray for the needs of those in your small group.