

THE OUTLINE

PART 5

| GROWING SPIRITUALLY TOGETHER

“... A man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.’ So, they are no longer two, but one. Therefore, what God has joined together, let man not separate.” Matthew 19:4-6

- Blocks to growing spiritually together

- Busyness
- Low-level anger
- Lack of forgiveness
- Lack of respect
- Very few role models
- Spiritual warfare

- Refreshing your marriage spiritually

A. Intentionality is the key

B. Pray Often

C. Worship Together

D. Time with God Together – The Closer Challenge 20 minutes a week

E. Couples Time

F. Solo/Sabbath

G. Yearly Retreat

H. Read a marriage book a year

- Commitment and Perseverance are key

PERSONAL & GROUP REFLECTION

PART 5

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. Jim mentioned that spiritual intimacy is often the least developed area of intimacy in a marriage. Can you relate to any of the blocks he mentioned?
2. It's obvious that intentionality is key. What are your thoughts about praying and worshipping together on a regular basis?
3. Are you willing to commit to the "Closer Challenge"? That's 20 minutes a week of spiritual connection. Do you have a plan? Remember Jim and Cathy Burns' book, *Closer*, is an excellent starting place.
4. Joining a couple's group, experiencing a marriage retreat, and reading one marriage book each year are all helpful ideas to refresh your marriage. Are you willing to commit to one or more of those ideas?
5. As unromantic as it sounds, commitment and perseverance are the foundation to keeping your marriage strong. What have you done to maintain commitment and perseverance in your relationship?