

To Love is Diligence

¹ This is the book of the generations of Adam. On the day when God created man, He made him in the likeness of God. ² He created them male and female, and He blessed them and named them “mankind” on the day when they were created.

GENESIS 5:1-2 NASB

³¹ As the Scriptures say, “A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.” ³² This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one.

EPHESIANS 5:31-32 NLT

**WE DILIGENTLY STRENGTHEN
OUR UNION WHEN:**

1. We create romantic traditions that remind us that God sees us as one

¹⁸ So commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these words of mine. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. ¹⁹ Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. ²⁰ Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, ²¹ so that as long as the sky remains above the earth, you and your children may flourish in the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors.

DEUTERONOMY 11:18-21 NLT

For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord’s death until he comes again.

1 CORINTHIANS 11:26 NLT

**WE DILIGENTLY STRENGTHEN
OUR UNION WHEN:**

2. We pray, dream, and walk toward the same vision

Commit your actions to the Lord, and your plans will succeed.

PROVERBS 16:3 NLT

Where there is no vision, the people are unrestrained.

PROVERBS 29:18 NASB

²⁵ Look straight ahead, and fix your eyes on what lies before you. ²⁶ Mark out a straight path for your feet; stay on the safe path.

PROVERBS 4:25-26 NLT

⁹ Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. ¹⁰ If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble.

ECCLESIASTES 4:9-10 NLT

**WE DILIGENTLY STRENGTHEN
OUR UNION WHEN:**

3. We follow Christ’s standard, constantly forgiving one another

Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.

COLOSSIANS 3:13B NLT

⁴ Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud ⁵ or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-5 NLT

A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.

ECCLESIASTES 4:12 NLT

**WE DILIGENTLY STRENGTHEN
OUR UNION WHEN:**

4. We honor each other even when we are not together

²¹ and subject yourselves to one another in the fear of Christ. ²² Wives, subject yourselves to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. ²⁴ But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, ²⁶ so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. ²⁸ So husbands also ought to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; ²⁹ for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church.

EPHESIANS 5:21-29 NASB

But He knew their thoughts and said to them, every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste; and a house divided against itself falls.

LUKE 11:17 NASB