

7 WAYS

TO SUPERCHARGE
YOUR PRAYERS



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Day Seven:

Show respect to your spouse.

We don't know much about the marital status of the disciples.

The only thing we know for certain is that Peter was married because we read of Jesus spending time at Peter's mother in law's house. It is amusing to imagine Peter being married. Jesus had his hands full with this impulsive and passionate man, we can imagine what Peter's wife had to go through!

We have a few sermons of Peter's and a couple of short books in the Bible which it appears he wrote. In none of them does he offer us much of a glimpse of his personal life. However, there is one spot that stands out to us because it both fuels our imaginations about what his married life might have been like and reminds us of our own marriages.

Husbands, in the same way, be considerate as you live with your wives and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers (1Peter 3:7).

Not hard here to see Peter in the situation most praying husbands find themselves in at some point or another.

He is praying and something is off. God is distant. Feels like there is a reinforced plexiglass dome over his home blocking all spiritual communication.

Then he remembers. He was sarcastic. He was short. He was lazy. He was demeaning. He was unhelpful. He treated his wife poorly and now his prayers are messed up.

Any wives reading this have probably already cut and pasted this, but before you send it off to your husband or share it on Facebook with pious glee I think it is safe to assume a similar principle exists for you. Indeed, if Peter's wife wrote something to help us strengthen our prayers she would perhaps have noticed the same dynamic in her life - that when she is subversive or disrespectful to Peter her prayers are limited in their effectiveness. At the very least, we can't imagine that a wife's prayers are enhanced by a critical spirit or a poisoned tongue towards her husband.

Prayer:

Lord, it makes perfect sense that how I treat my spouse would influence my prayer life. Help me to be patient, respectful, and proactive in my love for my spouse. Bring to my mind those places where I have grown blind to their needs and where they have accepted my blindness. I want to love them well.

Memory Verse:

Return to all the memory verses and spend some time saying them to yourself.