

A Prayer for Spouses Experiencing Conflict

By Fr. Timothy Pavlatos

Lord Jesus Christ, You created my beloved and I as unique individuals, and each of us has had unique experiences throughout our life. Some of our experiences have been good and brought joy, while others have been difficult and brought pain.

Lord, You know that when we were united through Your blessing in the mystery of marriage, we brought all our life experiences with us.

Though we think we know each other well, each of us is a living human document with many pages and chapters to our life still unknown by the other.

Lord, I desire to know my beloved fully and to be fully known. I desire to understand my beloved deeply and be deeply understood. I desire to see my beloved through Your eyes and through Your eyes be seen.

Through Your tender mercy and compassion, help us so that we may speak to one another with kindness and gentle curiosity when it might be difficult.

Grant us patience so that we may listen in order to truly understanding one another, and not assume there is nothing more to learn.

Grant us the ability to ask for forgiveness from one another when we have failed to listen, be kind, gentle and patient.

Help us, O Lord, so that our conflicts may bring us closer to one another and that out of them we will grow, develop deeper connection and greater love and respect for one another.

Grant that we may always hold each other's heart in our hands, delicately, thereby glorifying Your most honored and majestic Name for the blessing you bestowed on us when you united us to one another in the mystery of marriage. Amen.