

## ***Guidelines for Separation***

*Under certain circumstances if there is Sin in a marriage separation is necessary to preserve a marriage or prevent divorce or further damage to the marriage. If there is apathy, abandonment, abuse, adultery, or addiction then separation may be necessary and helpful.*

What do I do when I am not ready to divorce and I can't live with my spouse due to marital unfaithfulness and deception?

1. I need to separate until I have God's peace.
2. My spouse needs to be faithful during this time.
3. My spouse needs to be financially responsible during this time.
4. I need to be in counseling individually to receive support.
5. My spouse also needs to be in counseling.
6. We need to limit contact until or unless our counselor believes we are ready.
7. We can begin to restore our relationship when our counselor believes we are ready to resume marital counseling.
8. Our goal is to restore the marriage if at all possible and if both parties are willing to work on the relationship *after* first dealing with their own individual issues.
9. As God directs and gives me a sense of peace I will continue, stop, or divorce.
10. Until or unless I have a sense of peace from God, I will wait and work.

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