

# Lent Book Study Part 4: Holy Orders and Marriage

## GROUP QUESTIONS

1. In what ways has God brought restoration in your relationship with Him as Father?
2. How is God inviting you to draw nearer to the fathers in your life?
3. In what ways are you withholding yourself from Christ (and your spouse)?
4. What fears do you bring into your relationships?
5. How can you open yourself to the beauty of the marriages around you?

## LECTIO DIVINA

“What God has joined together, no human being must separate.” — Matthew 19:6

## JOURNAL QUESTIONS

1. What is my story of fatherhood with my biological father? With my spiritual fathers? With our Heavenly Father?
2. How am I presently choosing self-reliance as the result of a father wound?
3. How have I experienced woundedness from my parents' marriage? From my own marriage?
4. How have I experienced healing from my parents' marriage, other marriages, or my own marriage?

## QUOTES TO PONDER

According to St. John Paul II, our rebellion against God's fatherly authority has permeated all of history since the fall: “This is truly the key to interpreting reality. . . . Original sin, then, attempts to abolish fatherhood, destroying its rays . . . placing in doubt the truth about God, who is love.”

— Be Transformed, pg 88

You may ask, as I have, what can heal us collectively and individually from this primordial wound of confusion and disorder? Since the wound is rooted in distorted perceptions of the Father's authority and our rebellion against his authority, the antidote must be the opposite: restoring our understanding of his authority and humbly submitting to that authority in our lives.

— Be Transformed, pg 88

