# I Declare: Marriage & Relationships Edition

# Week 2: I Will Be Intentional

#### **CCV Sermon Guide**

## **OPENING QUESTION:**

What's the most 'romantic' or 'crazy' thing you've ever done to pursue someone you were interested in, and would you do it again today?

# **STUDY COMPANION VIDEO**

#### **READ:**

Genesis 2:24 James 2:17 Mark 10:45 Philippians 2:3-4

#### **DISCUSS:**

- 1. Think of a time when you were intentional in pursuing a relationship, whether romantic or otherwise, and what impact did it have?
- 2. What does James 2:17, Mark 10:45, and Philippians 2:3-4 teach us about how we should be intentional about pursuing someone?
- 3. What are some ways we can actively pursue someone as highlighted in this week's message?
- 4. Reflecting on your own relationship, what specific actions can you take this week to intentionally pursue the key relationship that is on your heart, and how will you ensure you follow through?

#### **CHALLENGE:**

- **Singles:** Reflect on the qualities and actions you value in a loving relationship. This week, challenge yourself to intentionally cultivate one of these qualities in your own life, whether through personal growth, serving others, or building deeper connections with friends and family.
- Married Couples: In this week's message, Pastor Ashley reminds us, "If you don't feel the love you once had, you have to do what you once did." Your

challenge this week is to revisit an action from a time when you were particularly intentional in your relationship and repeat it this week.

## **TAKE HOME QUESTIONS:**

**Table Talk** (a question to ask your family or friends over a meal): What's one way we can show each other we care, even in the small, everyday moments?

**Water Cooler** (a question to ask at work): What's something you've done to make someone important to you smile?

#### PRAYER:

Gracious God, we come before You with grateful hearts, seeking Your guidance and strength in our relationships. For those who are married, we ask for the wisdom and courage to be intentional in pursuing and cherishing our spouses, just as You have pursued us with Your unfailing love. Help us to overcome complacency and to nurture our marriages with actions that reflect Your love.

For those who are single, we pray for clarity and purpose in their journey. May they find fulfillment in their relationships with family, friends, and community, and may they grow in love and grace as they prepare for future commitments.

Lord, teach us all to love as You love, with intentionality and selflessness. May our actions be a testament to Your presence in our lives, and may we support one another in our pursuit of meaningful and loving relationships. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

# Study:

- For Marriages: <u>Being Intentional In Your Marriage</u>
- For Singles: How to Have Intentional Friendships