Covenant Counseling



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Clarification Questions for Healing, Restoration and Renewal of Trust from Disloyalty in Marriage

To be done by letter, heart to heart before face to face.

Step One: To be Done by Offended Spouse: Write out the clarification questions you need answered in order to move forward toward forgiving, restitution and rebuilding of trust:¹

- 1. How do you think your disloyalty has affected my life?
- 2. How has counseling and your growth in faith helped you?
- 3. What have you learned about yourself that will help you be loyal to me?
- 4. How do you plan to gain my trust?
- 5. Do you want to be with me? Are you committed to me?
- 6. What makes you think you will not do this to me again?
- 7. What can I do if I become suspicious of future disloyalty?
- 8. How will I know you will not hurt me again?
- 9. How do you feel about yourself after what you did to me?
- 10. What would have happened if you did not get caught?
- 11. How do you think I felt when I learned of your disloyalty?
- 12. Will you ever be disloyal to me again?

You may have questions beyond those above. We suggest four questions to ask yourself before asking additional questions:

- 1. Why am I asking this question and why do I need to know the information?
- 2. Will this help me with rebuilding trust and move toward healing?
- 3. Are my questions redemptive or revengeful?
- 4. Will the answer help me to move toward forgiveness?
- 1. **Step Two: To be done by offending spouse:** Write a letter to your spouse answering the above clarification questions. The letter will give your spouse a concrete reminder that it 1) really happened, 2) that it wasn't his/her fault, and 3) that the offender is doing the best to make restitution.

¹ Questions taken from Torn Asunder, 1992, 1995, 2008, David M. Carder, Moody Publishers