Message-Based Questions Relationship Status: Married John 3:16; Ephesians 5:2, 21-33; I John 4:7-12, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

- 1. What teaching about love is at the core of each of these verses? (Focus on the verbs.)
- 2. In the context of Ephesians 5:21-33, how does the Bible seem to define submission? How does this definition compare to our culture's view of what it means to "submit" or "be submissive"?

What are your thoughts and feelings about the biblical mandate for spouses to submit to one another? If you are married, how can you do a better job of submitting to your spouse? What are some specific things you can do to submit more to your spouse?

- 3. How does the relationship between Christ and the church set the standard for the relationship between husband and wife, and relationships in general?
- 4. "Opposites attract." Sometimes they seem to repel. And, sometimes what once attracted you now pushes you away. How do you handle times when your differences divide rather than draw you close to your spouse?
- 5. What can you do this week that would absolutely delight or encourage your spouse? (Perhaps you might use the "Five Love Languages," developed by Gary Chapman: Quality Time, Words of Affirmation, Gifts, Physical touch and Acts of Service.)
- 6. If single, how do these verses and the message help you understand and maybe even prepare for marriage?