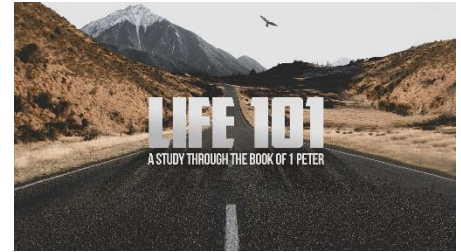


Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: LIFE 101 – 1 Peter

Part 12 – Turmoil in Marriage

April 30, 2017



Connect (15min)

* **'Betcha Didn't Know':** "Betcha didn't know I _____."

* **Thankful 3:** What are 3 things you're Thankful For today?

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Pray: Have one of your Group members Pray for your Group as you begin your Discussion.

Check-In (15min)

One of the Values we want to engage and grow in at Main Street Church is:

We will intentionally listen to the voice of God

> We recognize that the voice we listen to the most will determine the direction of our life.

*What is 1 thing that you've read, learned or heard from God in the month of April that has impacted/changed you?

*Do you have plan (schedule/focus) for personal time with God in the month of May? How can we encourage you?

(eg. a reading plan, specific time/place in the day, devotional or focus that you'd like to dig into...)

Sunday Message Feedback (40min)

* **Pastor Shawn** continues our LIFE 101 series in 1 Peter.

Special Note on This Week's Topic of Marriage: *Although marriage is the focus be sure to include those who are single in your Group discussion as it is designed to be helpful for all of us regardless of our marital status.*

- 1. Unfair Fight:** What is the most unfair fight you've ever seen or experienced—in sports, life, school, etc.? Why is it so important in relationships to "fight fair"?
- 2. Conflict in Marriage**
 - a. No marriage is without conflict; it's just part of it. But a lot of us don't usually view conflict in a way that allows it to be useful. How do you view conflict within your marriage?
 - b. How does your view of the role conflict plays in your marriage affect the way you approach it?
- 3. Read [2 Samuel 6:14-23](#).** How do David and Michal handle this conflict? What do you see in the way they interact that creates a negative and unhelpful environment for their marriage?
- 4. Conflict is inevitable.** We're not talking about eliminating conflict in your marriage, we're talking about fighting fair in your marriage so that conflict can be helpful instead of harmful. So think about the way **you** fight with your spouse—not vice versa.
 - a. Do you do any of the harmful things you saw in **2 Samuel 6**?

- b. How do your words, your tone, and your body language affect the fight?
- c. Do you have any “rules/guidelines” for fighting/conflict in your marriage/family?

5. Read [Matthew 18:15-17](#)

- a. Does this teaching of Jesus apply to marriage relationships?
- b. How would this look practically in a marriage (or a family)? If applied what would following these instructions look like for a married couple (or a family)? Discuss.
- c. How could this advice from Jesus help strengthen marriages/families? What would a marriage/family look like if couples practiced what Jesus taught in this passage?
[For more Scripture references on Conflict: <http://www.openbible.info/topics/conflict>]

6. Pastor Shawn talked about three ways we can handle conflict in marriage (or other relationships):

- *Deal with conflict quickly.... but kindly*
- *Deal with conflict thoroughly...but not vindictively*
- *Deal with conflict honestly... but forgive*

Which of these would you like to grow/mature in the most?

- 7. Think about some fights you’ve had in the past and whether they’ve turned out helpful and peace-giving or harmful and tension-building. Compare and contrast those instances and share 1 or 2 quick examples of what communication/conflict components made it helpful or harmful for you and your relationship.
- 8. Can you think of any other ways or practices that you know about that could help others in your group navigate conflict in a healthy way? Share.

Application & Prayer (20min)

*(Married Couples/Groups): How can you take steps this week to begin or continue to fight fair in your marriage and create a home of peace, growth, and kindness rather than tension, frustration, and sarcasm?

*Based on this week’s message, is there anything you need to change or do in one of your relationships to make it healthier?

(Avoid specific names and details so as not to gossip or slander. Focus on what Jesus needs to do in and through you)

***PRAY with and for marriages in your group and in our church.**

(including broken/separated marriages and those impacted by divorce)

***PRAY for areas of Conflict that you are facing this week.**

>> **Resources:** Consider the attached list of Marriage Resources & article on the Church.

Announcements (Full list included in the LG WEEKLY email)

BAPTISM Celebration - Sun. May 7. 6pm. www.mainstreetchurch.ca/baptism

Resources - Marriage

For a larger list of Resources on the topic of LOVE & MARRIAGE please contact Pastor Eryn at the church office.

Scripture: <http://www.openbible.info/topics/marriage> <http://www.openbible.info/topics/conflict>

Websites: <https://fiercemarriage.com> <http://www.familylifecanada.com>
<http://www.themarriagecourses.ca> <http://www.iamsecond.com/struggles/marriage>

Counseling: For information on Christian Counseling please contact Pastor Eryn at the church office.

Books: Available on Amazon, Indigo, Christianbook.com or through Christian bookstores.

Sacred Marriage

(2002) by Gary Thomas

<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/55079-sacred-marriage-celebrating-marriage-as-a-spiritual-discipline>

The Meaning of Marriage

(2011) by Timothy Keller

<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/16321346-the-meaning-of-marriage-facing-the-complexities-of-commitment-with-the>

You and Me Forever: Marriage in Light of Eternity

(2014) by Francis & Lisa Chan [YouTube Channel](#). Video Resource: www.youandmeforever.org

<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/41951999-you-and-me-forever-marriage-in-light-of-eternity>

What Did You Expect? Redeeming the Realities of Marriage

(2010) by Paul David Tripp

<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/9113186-what-did-you-expect-redeeming-the-realities-of-marriage>

Love Talk (Communication & Conflict)

(2004) by Drs. Les & Leslie Parrott

The Five Love Languages

(2014) by Gary Chapman Resources: www.5lovelanguages.com

The Surprising Secrets of Highly Happy Marriages: The Little Things That Make a Big Difference

(2013) by Shaunti Feldhahn

Real Marriage: The Truth about Sex, Friendship, and Life Together

(2013) by Mark & Grace Driscoll

Love & Respect: The Love She Most Desires, The Respect He Desperately Needs

(2006) by Emmerson Eggerichs

From This Day Forward

(2014) by Craig & Amy Groeschel

The Mingling of Souls: God's Design for Love, Marriage, Sex, and Redemption

(2015) by Matt Chandler

Fit to Be Tied: Making Marriage Last a Lifetime

(1993) by Bill & Lynne Hybels

Boundaries in Marriage

(2002) by Dr. Henry Cloud & Dr. John Townsend

Getting Ready for Marriage (2016) by Jim Burns & Doug Fields