

RIVERS CROSSING COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Discussion Guide
February 19, 2017



Extraordinary Marriage – Week #3

INTRODUCTION:

1. This week was all about conflict resolution within relationships. The title was “What are we fighting for...” Think of some of the disagreements you’ve had with your spouse – ever have a moment in the argument when you stop and wonder, what the heck are we even arguing about anyway? Take a small moment of vulnerability and share with the group the argument you’ve had as a couple that seems the most futile now in hindsight...

DIVE IN:

1. Much of the underlying themes of conflict resolution this week ultimately centered on communication. On a scale of 1 to 10, 1 being mute and 10 being perfect, how would you rate your communication as a couple?
2. Think about your communication in your relationship – is it largely proactive (forward thinking, planning, budgeting, etc...) or reactive (putting out fires, problem solving, arguing in the moment, etc...)?
3. Have you had any conversations when you’re not fighting to set the rules for when you do fight? If you have, share those rules with your group. If you haven’t, where do you draw boundaries in arguments when you’re in the middle of them?
4. When you have disagreements, do you see your spouse as the enemy? How does the way you view one another as enemy or ally even in the midst of fighting change your arguments? Are you fighting for your marriage or against your spouse?
5. When you have disagreements in relationships, are you fighting to win or to come to resolution?
6. Pastor Jeff and Hazel referenced 2 Corinthians 5:10 – *“We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”* What would your relationship disagreements look like if you were able to take thoughts captive for Jesus in the midst of arguments?
7. Jeff and Hazel also gave some great proactive tips for how to switch from arguments to positive steps towards an extraordinary marriage. What have you done in your relationships to move from conflict to compromise?
8. What does it look like for you put some positive rules or goals in place for you to grow forward and not simply create boundaries around conflict?
9. Pastor Jeff said that their marriage changed when he saw their relationship not as a contract but as a covenant. What are the differences between the two and how do you view your relationship?

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NOW WHAT:

1. What part of this week's message has had the greatest impact on you? What truth(s) has God taught you through the message and our group discussion?
2. What do you need to do with that truth this week to become a fully engaged follower of Jesus?