

Faith Community Church Mystery of Marriage

Faith Group Questions & Discussion Guide



Opening Prayer: Ask God to soften our hearts to hear how and be willing to grow in our relationships - as and with imperfect people.

Key Takeaways:

- 1. Society promotes self-centeredness and sin distorts God's intentions for marriage, leading to rebellion and harsh rule.
- 2. Jesus saved marriage and asks us, in our marriages, to mirror His relationship with the church.
- 3. A Wife is called to submission and respect, honoring the husband's decisions, supporting his calling, and being his crown.
- 4. A Husband is called to sacrificial, sanctifying, and self-love, nourishing and cherishing his wife.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Share if you found a way to encourage someone in a different marital status than you
- 2. How does our society's view of marriage differ from God's design? How can we resist cultural pressures in our marriages? (Ephesians 4:17-24)
- 3. The sermon mentions that wives are called to submit to and respect their husbands. What are some practical ways wives can do this while still maintaining their voice and wisdom in the relationship? (Ephesians 4:15, Colossians 4:6)
- 4. Men, reflect on the question: Is your wife more like Christ because she married you? How can husbands actively contribute to their wives' spiritual growth? (1 Kings 2:1-3)

- 5. Discuss the concept of "sacrificial love" in marriage. How can both husbands and wives practice this in their daily lives? (Philippians 2:3-8)
- 6. The sermon emphasized the importance of building up your spouse. Share some ways you've seen this done effectively in marriages. (Rom 14:19, 1 Thess 5:11)
- 7. How does viewing marriage as a reflection of Christ and the Church change your perspective on your own marriage or future marriage? (Eph 5:22-27)

Practical Applications:

- 1. For married couples: Choose one area (from Key Takeaways #3 or 4) to focus on improving this week. Share your choice with one other person (husbands, with another man; wives, with another woman), and check on each other's status during the week.
- 2. For singles: Reflect on how you can prepare yourself spiritually for a potential future marriage that reflects Christ's relationship with the Church. Share your plan with someone who will hold you accountable.
- 3. All group members: Commit to praying daily for the marriages in your church community. Try praying the prayer in Philippians 1:9-11.
- 4. Married couples: Plan an intentional time to discuss your spouse's love languages and how you can better meet their emotional needs.
- 5. All: Identify one way you can pursue a deeper relationship with Christ this week, reflecting on your role as part of the bride of Christ. Share at the next meeting.

Closing Prayer: Pray that God would keep us focused on the sermon's messages throughout the week and help us to support one another in applying these principles to our relationships with God and others.