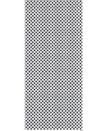


Proverbs: Marriage DISCUSSION GUIDE



SUMMARY:

The book of Proverbs is an incredibly practical book. It provides wisdom and principles that can be instantly implemented and applied in our lives. As we continue our summer series in this book, we look at some of these practical principles in the context of how they apply to one of the most important earthly relationships anyone could ever have, marriage.

Key Passages: Proverbs 18:22; 24; 3:3-4

Be sure to read this Scripture passage together before you proceed to the "Grow" section of our study.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

KNOW: Spend some time finding out how everyone's week has gone.

The questions in this section provide a quide for connectivity; feel free to approach this part of your group time organically over a meal or "connection" activity or with questions appropriate to your context.

What is something that you are thankful for this week?

What is something that is causing you stress or concern this week?

Who in your life is in need of prayer, physical help, or emotional encouragement right now?

GROW: Grow in the Lord as you engage His Word together.

The culture has all kinds of ideas about what marriage should be or what the family should be. How would you define marriage? What sources or philosophies have shaped what you believe about marriage?

Solomon tells us in Proverbs that if we get lazy when it comes to life, when it comes to following God, when it comes to marriage and family, it can lead to our destruction. (See Proverbs 24:33-34) Talk about a time when you found yourself being lazy or apathetic about your walk with God. Where/how have you found ways to combat this?

According to Proverbs 24:3-5 How does wisdom, understanding, and knowledge fit into building a household?

GO: Talk through ways you can put what you've learned into practice.

It's been said that "if a good marriage was easy to have, everyone would have one." From your perspective, what are some things that can make a marriage good?

When you run into obstacles, roadblocks, or conflicts in your marriage, what's your default reaction? Do you get angry? Run home to mother? Blame each other? Or do you look for ways to solve the problem and move forward?

What are some practical ways you can acknowledge God's authority in your home? How does the belief that He is present shape your interactions with each other?