



SG | Small Groups

Group Prep

In preparation for group, please read Romans 12:10, Ephesians 5:21, and 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, then answer the following discussion questions prior to attending.

Introduction

A recent Gallup poll reveals that 95% of people are currently married, want to be married, or will eventually get married. Bottom line...marriage is on our minds, and a majority of us will eventually be navigating the joys and difficulties of marriage. In light of this, how do we stay committed to the phrase, “til death do us part?”

Discussion Questions

1. What does a fulfilling marriage look like to you? Although we could be working on many areas of our marriages, which of the four discussed this past weekend resonate with you most and why?

2. Read Romans 12:10. What does it mean to honor your spouse? When do you feel most honored by your spouse? How could you “outdo” your spouse in showing honor to them? Read Ephesians 5:21. How could “mutual submission” benefit your home?

Parenting is hard and stressful on marriages. What do you and your spouse struggle or disagree on parenting? Which of the three points shared about parenting do you feel you do well, and which need the most attention? How can we demonstrate the marital relationship as the most important in the home to our children?

Do you and your spouse plan together? If so, how? What problems have you run into when you fail to plan together? Why is prioritizing this so important to the health of your marriage?

Which room have you been spending the most time in lately – the appreciation room or the depreciation room? Read 1 Corinthians 3:4-8. Share good attributes about your spouse. Which “wrongs” are you keeping record of and why? What practical steps can you take to keep your marriage out of the depreciation room?

3. Which of the four points on developing a healthy marriage could you and your family most benefit from? How so? Our marriages should be an example of God’s love to others. How could we benefit others and advance God’s kingdom by applying these four points to our marriage?

4. What’s one aspect of your marriage that you continually struggle with? After discussing practical steps to improve your marriage, what one step do you plan on taking this week to live out “til death do us part?”

My action step is _____.

I will encourage and pray for _____ to follow through, and their action step is _____.

My memory verse is _____.

This coming week, I’m praying for _____.

Outreach: Groups in Action

Sign up to help restock connection cards in the Greenwood Campus auditorium on Wednesday nights. This will be a huge blessing to Emmanuel! Email Kerry at kcarmichael@eclife.org.

Save the date for March 18 for Pack Away Hunger. We’ll need lots of hands to help pack 100,000 meals. More details coming soon!

What is a **fulfilling** marriage?

1. Give honor to each other.

Outdo one another in showing honor. *Romans 12:10*

“To honor someone means to give them respect and high esteem, to treat them as being special and of great worth.”

– Stephen & Alex Kendrick, Authors of The Love Dare

We try to honor each other’s preferences .

We try to honor each other’s time .

We try to honor each other’s opinions .

“Respect guards against mistreatment.” – Dallas Willard

Submit to **one another** out of reverence for Christ. *Ephesians 5:21*

2. Parent together .

Be on the same page , as much as possible .

Value the marriage as the most important relationship.

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become **one flesh**. *Genesis 2:24*

Both parents must parent .

3. Plan together.

Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty. *Proverbs 21:5*

 Yearly planning

 Weekly planning

 Daily planning

4. Focus on the good .

The appreciation room

The depreciation room

...it keeps **no record** of wrongs. *1 Corinthians 13:5*

Send your questions to question@eclife.org or text 65248 the word QUESTION followed by your question for Danny and Jackie.

Example: *question how long have you been married?*