



MOST IMPORTANT IN MARRIAGE

Community Group Discussion Guide

February 15, 2015

Week 2 | Big Picture
Ephesians 5:21-33

Read Ephesians 5:21-33 before answering the following questions

Introduction

This two week series takes a big picture view of marriage. The first sermon looked at the first two sides of this big picture: **Marriage... What it is** and **What it does**.

The second sermon looked at three more side of this picture: **Marriage... What it needs**, **Who it honors** and **What it points to**.

Questions for Study

1. If you're in a Community Group and using these two weeks to do a study on marriage, and you're at a level of trust with each other to do this – spend time sharing what you would say has been your biggest challenge as a couple.
2. If you answered the above question and you've successfully worked through that challenge, what was most helpful for you in doing this?
3. On the other side of this, if you haven't yet successfully worked through this challenge take the time for other group members to provide ideas for you that might be helpful.

Stop to pray for each other as a group before answering the following questions.

4. Why is it so important to the strength of a marriage for both husband and wife to have a deep sense of God's love for them?
5. Asking the same question, but from the opposite direction: Why is it detrimental to the health of a marriage if your spouse is the main source of love and happiness in your life?
6. Paul begins this section on marriage with these words in verse 21: *Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ*. How should this impact who you choose to marry? How should this impact the relationship a couple have together, both when they're dating and when they're married (if they marry).
7. In verses 22-24 wives are told to submit to their husbands. How would you say this is lived out in your marriage? In what ways is this done? If you're part of a married couples Community Group, share an example of how you've done this in 2014 or even from these first two months in 2015.
8. Where would you say you find this most challenging? How are you dealing with this challenge?
9. In verses 25-29 husbands are told to love their wives as Christ loves the Church. How would you say you are living this out in your marriage? If you're part of a married couples Community Group, share several examples of how this is part of your daily life.
10. If you're single, how does what Paul writes to wives and husbands make marriage appealing or less than appealing to you? Why?
11. Why does it point to the grace of God if a husband and wife live out this description of their relationship?