

Life Group Discussion Questions

Sermon Series: Why Do We Do That?

Sermon Title: Celebrate Biblical Marriage

Sermon Date: 10-20-19

Gospel Gain: Biblical marriage is designed by God to put the qualities of the gospel on display.

Gathering Together (Icebreaker)

- What elements have you observed in a wedding ceremony or experienced in your own wedding that were just fun?
- What elements have you observed in a wedding ceremony or experienced in your own wedding that modeled love and devotion between two people?
- What % of time do you think the average couple invests in preparing for their wedding day versus preparing for their marriage?

Growing Together (Truth/Equipping)

- In this study we will take time to look at the basic commitments of marriage described in Genesis 2 and then look at Ephesians 5 and see how the beauty of the marriage relationship can display the qualities of the gospel.

Read: *Genesis 2:24*

- This verse describes the original union between one man and one woman for life. This is the marriage standard that God designed. What challenges does that standard encounter in today's world?
- We are to leave our parents. The marriage relationship is to be the primary relationship beyond our commitment to Christ. How can a married couple learn to "leave" their parents in practical ways?
- We are to cleave to our spouse. The marriage relationship is to be a permanent relationship. How can a married couple "hold fast" to each other beyond the physical? Why would these areas be important to the permanence of that relationship?
- We are to weave our lives together in "one flesh" commitment. How can we help the next generation learn to leave and cleave first before jumping to the physical first?

Read: *Ephesians 5:21-33*

- What are the “traditional” responsibilities for a husband and wife, as many people understood them over the last 100 years?
- Think about famous sit-coms. How have those television shows portrayed husbands and wives in marriage relationships? Share examples.
- What are the potential influences for someone to learn how to function in their marriage as a husband or wife?
- How is submission to Christ and to spouse similar to one another?
- How is humble servant leadership described in this passage in relationship to marriage and the church?
- What do you think it means for a husband to love his wife like Christ loved the church?
- Gentlemen – Are you embracing the role of servant-leader or operating more like a dictator or apathetic leader? What adjustments can you make to lead and love like Christ did for the church?
- Ladies – If the husband is functioning as a servant-leader, does that make submission to him more reasonable and if so, why?
- How is sacrifice a part of the gospel message? How does sacrifice look in a marriage relationship?
- How is forgiveness a part of the gospel message? How does forgiveness factor into a marriage relationship?
- How are love and respect vital to how Jesus gave his life for us and our salvation? How can love and respect be incorporated into a marriage relationship?

Getting Real with One Another (Accessibility)

- If you are married, what is one truth from today’s study that can help you grow healthier in your marriage? If you are willing to share, please share that with your Life Group.
- If you are not married, what is one truth from today’s study that gives you hope for the marriage standard that scripture describes? If you are willing, please share that with your Life Group.

Group Prayer Time (Supplication)

Share some prayer requests with one another and then pray for one another.

Pray that Oakwood Church would continue to develop a passion for God and compassion for people.