

DISCUSSION GUIDE

The Gospel & Marriage (The Everyday Gospel #1)

Week of Feb 3, 2019

While this Discussion Guide is intended for use in a Riverwood Growth Group, it can be used personally as well. To get the most from these questions, we suggest you take 10-15 minutes to read, think, and pray through this Guide before participating in your Growth Group. The point of this guide is to not just "get through the questions" (there's no quiz at the end!) but to pursue Jesus and grow spiritually.

ICEBREAKER (Optional)

If you had to live somewhere other than Iowa, where would you choose? Why?

DISCUSSION

1. a. What does popular American culture tell us is the purpose of marriage? In light of Pastor Erin's sermon, what is God's purpose for marriage?

b. How do these perspectives differ?

Read **Ephesians 5:21-33** & **Colossians 3:18-19**

2. a. Both husbands and wives are to submit to each other out of reverence for Christ. What does this look like within marriage?

b. In what way is a husband to be like Christ? What did Christ do for the church?

c. How is a wife to be like the church?



Read **1 Peter 3:1-7**

3. How could an unbelieving spouse be won over?

Where does a wife's beauty come from?

How could a husband's prayers be hindered?

4. Jesus is who we should strive to be like in every area of life. Although He was a single man, He is the greatest example of what a spouse should be like. Give examples of ways spouses can venture to be like Christ in their everyday interactions.

MAKING IT PERSONAL

5. If you are married, how could you better love and serve your spouse? Do you feel convicted to be more like Christ in a specific area of your marriage?

If you are single, how can you better support the marriages of those around you?

MEMORY VERSE

"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the Church." (Ephesians 5:31-32)

PRAYER

Close in prayer for the marriages within the Riverwood family. Ask God to help us become more servant-hearted and Christlike in all of our relationships.

