

Plus One - Married

Launching Questions – Use these to get the conversation started.

1. What is one of your favorite things to do together? (last week we asked favorite thing to do alone).
2. Describe when you realized being married changed your priorities.

Guiding Questions - Use these to point towards the topic

3. What do you like the most in your marriage?
4. What do you like the least in your marriage? (Don't let people drone on in complaint!)

READ: 1 Corinthians 7:1-4

- It is quite interesting that Paul notes there is plenty of sex happening outside of marriage – just like in our culture today. It is also interesting that Paul must remind husbands and wives that they must give to each other physically – whereas that doesn't seem to be a problem for the single people in Corinth!

Clarifying Questions – These lead to life application

5. Which demands of marriage have become obstacles to intimacy?
6. How can you overcome those obstacles?

READ: 1 Corinthians 13:4-6

*“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, **it keeps no record of wrongs**. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. **It always protects**, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.*

*- **The longer we're married – the easier it is to have a record of wrongs!***

7. How does forgiving each other pave the way to a healthy marriage?
8. How can you grow in protecting your spouse/marriage relationship?
9. What do you need to protect each other from?
10. What has this lesson and/or my marriage taught me about the following:
 - a. God
 - b. The Gospel
 - c. Myself

ACTION ITEMS

Based on what you've learned from this lesson, identify the following:

- Where does my thinking need to change as it relates to our marriage?
- Where does my behavior need to change regarding my spouse?

- If one of you isn't satisfied with your current level of intimacy (physical, spiritual, emotional) please discuss it with each other in an effort to protect your marriage and each other from building a record of wrongs. Come to agreement on what each of you must do in order to grow in these areas.

NOTE: One of you will need to get humble and pray more or open up more. Another might need to be humble and give physically more than is preferred. Point is - you'll both need to give more in an area.