



Discussion Guide | Week 3: Cast Away | May 31, 2020

OVERVIEW We all enter into marriage with hopes, dreams & desires. The only way to keep them from becoming expectations is to decide that your spouse doesn't owe you. As long as you think your spouse owes you, your marriage is transactional. It's all about relational debt & keeping score. That destroys intimacy. It destroys love. But what's wrong with having hopes, dreams, and desires? What are we supposed to do with them? Happy couples don't let their desires become expectations. Happy couples know to unload their frustrations on God. He invites it. And, if you allow Him to, He will do something remarkable in your life & marriage.

KEY VERSES 1 Peter 5:5b-11 (NIV), Psalm 55:12-23 (NIV)

BIG IDEA Frustrations have to go somewhere. And God invites us to dump them at his feet.

REMEMBER Take a moment to read 1 Peter 5:5b-11 together. Is there anything in these verses or the message on Sunday that really stuck out to you? Something that challenged you? Or something that encouraged you? Share.

REFLECT Our culture tends to put more stock in marriage than just about any other culture in the history of the world – especially when it comes to finding purpose & fulfillment. Pastor Mike said, “We focus so much on the gift of marriage that we forget about the gift giver.” Why do you think that's the case? And what are the consequences when we make this mistake? Explain.

RESPOND Casting our cares on God often feels a bit unnatural for many of us. But as we more fully recognize the love that God has for us as our Heavenly Father, it frees us to prayer openly and honestly to him. What are some of the most honest prayers you've made? How have you seen Jesus show you favor as you humbled yourself & dumped your cares at his feet? Share.

REAL LIFE As you reflect on Peter's words to the persecuted churches in Asia Minor (1 Peter 5:5-11), how is the Holy Spirit challenging you to set aside time to pray honestly this week? When will you set that time aside, and where will you do it? Share specifically.

PRAYER Have someone read David's brutally honest prayer in Psalm 55:12-23. Then have each person share an honest, raw prayer request that's on their heart. Close your time by praying about these requests together.

NOTES

Common options for dealing with unsatisfied desires:

1. Ignore them
2. Stay busy
3. Find someone else

The Intangibles: Respected, Desired, Admired, Cherished, Protected, Defended, Trusted, Prioritized, Pursued, Attracted to

LUNCH CHAT

ASK YOUR KIDS OR STUDENTS THESE 3 QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ONLINE MESSAGE TODAY DURING LUNCH!

- 1) Have you ever quit a game you were playing with someone because they weren't playing by your "rules?"
- 2) What do you think the word expectation means? Do you think you have expectations of each other in your home?
- 3) Jesus wants us to cast all of our anxiety and frustration at his feet. Take some time separately as a family this week to be intentional about doing that

