

Small Group Discussion Guide



Marriage Hurts: Jesus Heals

May 1, 2022 (week 2)

Marriage is an amazing blessing from the Lord, however, as sinners we complicate things and often turn God's blessings into burdens. While marriage can hurt, Jesus can heal! Marital problems-no matter how complex-can be simplified down to our heart to follow Jesus. Let us pray that the Lord's Spirit takes over our hearts and heal our marriages with the forgiveness of Jesus Christ! - Pastor Jeremy Lind

***God does not want us to stay in abusive relationships. If you need help, please reach out to your small group or Pastor Jeremy. Or, call the domestic abuse hotline at (816) 380-4663*

Note: Many of the principles for a successful marriage can be applied to other intimate relationships in your life: siblings, close friends, prayer partners, etc. Ask God to reveal ways you can apply this lesson to your situation.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Genesis 2:21-22

So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

1 Peter 3:1-2

In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior.

Colossians 3:18-19

Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be embittered against them.

Connect

Pastor Jeremy reminded us that God's perfect word is not 'antiquated,' but beautiful. The key to understanding this truth is to spend more time in God's word. Read the following verses and discuss what they teach about God's word and why it is still relevant today.

2 Timothy 3:16-17; Psalm 119:33-34, 89-91; 1 Peter 1:24-25

Explore

Note: the teachings below assume that the husband and wife are both committed to Christ and familiar with God's Word. This is not always the case. (For example, see 1 Peter 3:1-2) If you would like to discuss challenges in your marriage, please contact Pastor Jeremy.

Read Eph 5:22-24. The word submit has been given negative connotations in our sinful world. However, God has established his leadership model for marriage. Submitting to one's husband means following his godly leadership.

- Discuss ways that a wife can follow her husband as the spiritual head of the family.

Read Eph 5:25-31.

- From these verses, how a husband is to treat his wife.
- Discuss some specific ways a husband can carry out these instructions.
- Husbands are accountable to the Lord for their leadership. How can a wife help hold her husband accountable for godly leadership?

Read Eph 5:32-33. Paul refers to the marriage relationship as a mystery that illustrates Christ and the church. From the discussions about the roles of a husband and wife in marriage, discuss how this is true.

Transform and Respond

If preferred:: Discuss the following in the privacy of your home instead of as a group.

Pastor Jeremy stated that, "If two people are following the Gospel of Jesus Christ, it is impossible for them not to have a good marriage." In what ways does following Jesus bring about a healthy marriage, including healing when hurt, reconciling in disagreements, and, most importantly, honoring the Lord and bringing glory to God?