

Life Group Discussion Guide

MARRIAGE MATTERS

Ephesians 4

Stuart Jones - August 18, 2019



INTRODUCTION

Why do we need marriage? Why do we need a critical mass of married couples in our communities?

Author Janice Shaw Crouse writes that happily married persons generally have learned the skills to being good neighbors and citizens. Children growing up with parents who are committed to marriage are likely more secure and tend to treat other children with care and compassion because they have seen it in their home.

The virtues learned by working to develop a happy marriage constitute drops of glue which, when multiplied in sufficient numbers, produce a good, healthy, humane social environment for all.

DISCUSSION STARTER

1. Tell the group about something you learned from your parents' relationship that you have replicated (Ex: Always making coffee for your spouse, always saying, "I love you," or having a date night).
2. Why is it important for a mom and dad to make their relationship the most important thing in the home? What are the dangers of allowing other things such as activities, sports, jobs, etc., to slip ahead of a mom and dad's connection?

EVALUATE IT

1. Stuart explained that the most common issue couples have in their marriage is a lack of communication. Why is that? Why is so hard to be completely authentic with our spouse?
2. Read Ephesians 4:29-32. Stuart said that we should be attentive to our spouse. What did he mean by that? What does that look like under your roof?
3. Paul Powell wrote, "Many a person has created a marital grave through a series of small digs." Why is it so easy to say things that are cutting then it is to say things that build others up? How do small digs dig big graves? Have you ever seen this occur in another couple's marriage? Tell the group about it, but be sure to protect their identities.

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. Would you call yourself a good communicator? Why or why not? Would your spouse agree with your assessment? Explain.
2. What is one aspect of your relationship with your spouse that you wish you did differently? How could you go about implementing that change?



Interested in joining or starting a Life Group?
Contact our Life Groups Minister.

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