

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of March 20-26, 2022

“BECOMING THE WIFE GOD WANTS YOU TO BE”

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

In your own words, describe a perfect married life?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read Ephesians 5:22-33 and 1 Peter 3:1-2.

1. We read that wives are to submit to their husbands and respect them. How many times is the word “submit/subject” mentioned in these verses? Are submission and respect synonymous? If not, what's the difference?
2. In verse 21, Paul describes the general attitude that Christians should have towards one another. Using your own study tools or dictionary, look up the definition for “submitting yourselves”. What should be the motivation for this attitude? How do you think the fear of God relates to submission to one another?
3. When two people come together in marriage, they carry different experiences, perspectives, likes, and preferences.
 - For the singles, what do you think are the things you'll carry when you get married, and how do you think it will affect your relationship?
 - For the married ones, what have you been carrying? How is it affecting your relationship, and how do you handle each other's differences?
4. In Ephesians 5:22-33, Paul compares the union of husband and wife to that of Christ and the church as his bride. How is this relationship of the church to Christ an example to all of us?
5. "Being happily married is not about finding the right person but about being the right person."
 - For the singles. Do you think we should neglect finding the right person and focus solely on honing ourselves to be the right one? Why?
 - For the married. How willing are you to apply and practice this? What steps can you take?

6. Paul writes that wives are to submit to their husband "in everything" as long as it is not contradictory to God's word, not immoral or unbiblical. List some practical ways a wife could submit to her husband and share with the group.
7. For wives only. Which one is most difficult for you – submission or respect? What practical steps can you do to apply this Biblical principle?

8. NEXT STEPS

Being happily married is not about finding the right person but about being the right person.

- I will consistently submit to the authority of Christ by reading his word.
- I will intentionally submit, respect, and pray for my husband. (For the wife)
- I will prepare to be the right person God wants me to be.
- I will pray for the married couples who have strayed from God's pattern.

Don't forget to:

- Go through the devotionals everyday this week.
- Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.
- Commit 30 minutes a day for God's intervention in this fight against the COVID virus.

CLOSING THE SESSION.

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- (For the married) Pray for a stronger marriage in the Lord.
- (For the single) Pray for stronger marriage for the beloved Christian couples close to you.
- Take the time to pray for our nation, for peace and for the gospel to prosper during this time of the pandemic.
- Pray for those who are hurting, going through fear, worry and anxiety in the group.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends and loved ones.

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE.

March 21	Proverbs 5
March 22	1 Corinthians 13:4-8
March 23	John 17
March 24	1 John 4:7-21
March 25	1 Peter 3:7-12
March 26	Hosea 3:1-5
March 27	Ephesians 5:15-33