



WHOAAMI

From this Day Forward...

Discussion Guide | October 6, 2019

Ephesians 5:21-33

Questions for Study and Discussion

**Before you begin, please read Ephesians 5:21-33 as a group.

1. Imagine you surveyed a group of strangers on the street, asking for their knee jerk reactions to how they viewed marriage. What are some of the responses you think you'd get?
2. How would the larger American culture define a thriving marriage? Is this different from how followers of Jesus may define a thriving marriage? Explain.
3. Look closely at the passage (Ephesians 5:21-33) again, and observe how many times Jesus Christ is referenced. How does the centrality of Jesus and His work in this passage shape how we read everything Ephesians 5:21-33 commands about marriage?
4. Some of the things the Apostle Paul brings up in this passage may sound extreme to you. In what ways could this passage be **mis**understood and lead to potential dangers?
5. In a sentence or two, summarize what Paul **IS** saying here and why he's saying it.
6. What other Biblical truths are essential to keep in mind as you think about what a healthy marriage looks like?
7. Why is a thriving marriage (defined by the Bible) worth fighting for? Whether you're married or single, why are thriving marriages important?
8. What are the biggest challenges to a thriving marriage? Work as a group to identify at least 6-8 challenges.
9. Which of these challenges have you faced in your own relationships? Based on what you've learned in Ephesians 5, what might it look like to navigate these challenges in a God-honoring way?
10. How can your group be a place where the real struggles of marriage can be brought to light - in a safe place, where you can find encouragement, support, and help?
11. For anyone who's married: What practical steps do you need to take this week to invest fresh attention and effort into a thriving marriage? For anyone who's single: What's your biggest take-away on marriage from Ephesians 5:21-33 and this discussion as a group?
12. **Challenge: Memorize Ephesians 5:31-32:** 31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and the two will become one flesh." 32 This is a profound mystery - but I am talking about Christ and the church.