

ONE LARGE GROUP

PRAYER:

PURPOSE: Provide an overview of what the Bible says about: God, man, marriage, and parenting

ASSUMPTIONS:

- God exists & He is sovereign (He is alive & active)
- God’s word is truth (God revealed the Bible for our benefit & guidance)
- The Bible is all we need to understand our world, and live to please God. This allows us to help our families, neighbors, and country

THEME: “Two Paths”

- Every day we decide to either obey God or disobey (honor God or self?)
- There are consequences to each path

LESSON 6 REVIEW: (Marriage, Part 1)

- Marriage was designed by God for mutual benefit
- Sin brought conflict into marriage (both want control)
- Divorce is man’s idea
- Marriage is a legal contract in God’s eyes
- Marriage fulfills many purposes (companionship, help, godly children, unity)
- Marriage is under attack by Satan

OBJECTIVES OF LESSON 7: (Marriage, Part 2)

- Review the husband’s role in a godly marriage

BIBLE:

1. *The Bible witnesses to its own divine origin and relevance.*

2 Peter 1:20-21 (1191) Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but *holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.*

2 Timothy 3:16 (1168) *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.*

2. *The Bible is relevant and effective.*

Psalms 19:7-9 (579) The law of the Lord is perfect, *converting the soul*; the testimony of the Lord is sure, *making wise the simple*. The statutes of the Lord are right, *rejoicing the heart*; the commandment of the Lord is pure, *enlightening the eyes*. The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever, the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

Malachi Men Lesson 7 “Marriage” Part 2 Facilitators Notes

Psalm 119:11 (630) Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You. (treasured, valuable, precious)

Psalm 119:105 (632) Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

MARRIAGE, PART 2:

Q – What is the relationship between marriage and sex?

Genesis 2:18 & 24 (2) And the Lord God said, “It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him” Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and *they shall become one flesh.*”

Deuteronomy 5:18 (200) *You shall not commit adultery.*

Galatians 5:19-21 (1143) Now the *works of the flesh are* evident, which are: *adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

Ephesians 5:3 (1148) But *fornication* and all uncleanness or covetousness, *let it not even be named* among you, as is fitting for saints.

1 Thessalonians 4:3 (1158) For *this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality.*

Hebrews 13:4 (1181) Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but *fornicators and adulterers God will judge.*

ANSWER 1:

- Marriage is the only place for sex
- God designed marriage
- God calls sex outside of marriage a sin

John 4:17-18 (1035) the woman answered and said, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You have well said, “I have no husband,” “For you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly.”

ANSWER 2:

- Having sex does not create a marriage

1 Corinthians 7:2-5 (1119) Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. *Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband.* The wife

Malachi Men Lesson 7 “Marriage” Part 2 Facilitators Notes

does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. *Do not deprive one another* except with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

ANSWER 3:

- Sex is for pleasing and protecting your mate
- Have sex regularly to avoid temptation
- Abstain for short times only by mutual agreement (to grow closer to God)

SMALL GROUPS (each group reviews the following material)

MARRIAGE, PART 2: (Continued)

Review Homework: (ask the following questions)

1. What did you learn? Are you now thinking differently?
2. Do you understand God better? Do you understand yourself better?
3. Are you resolved to act differently?

Recite Memory Verses: (Gen 1:1, Prov 4:23, Eph 1:3, Jn 17:17, 1 Cor 12:7, Gen 2:24)

Q – Who is the husband accountable to in his responsibilities?

1 Corinthians 11:3 (1123) But I want you to know that *the head of every man is Christ*, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.

ANSWER:

- Husbands are accountable to Christ just as Christ is accountable to God
- God has specific expectations for husbands (God will judge each husband)

Q - What are some of the biblical roles of a husband?

Ephesians 5:23 (1148) For the *husband is head of the wife*, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.

Matthew 20:25-27 (954) But Jesus called them to Himself and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but *whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant*. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave.”

Malachi Men Lesson 7 “Marriage” Part 2 Facilitators Notes

ANSWER 1: A husband is a leader

Notes:

- A leader is not a demanding tyrant
- A leader does not need to make all the decisions (listen to your helper)
- A leader is concerned about those he leads
- A leader is responsible and accountable (to God)
- A leader is a servant who cherishes and protects

Ephesians 5:25 (1148) *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her.*

Ephesians 5:28-29 (1149) *So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.*

Ephesians 5:33 (1149) *Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.*

Colossians 3:19 (1156) *Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.*

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (1125) *Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*

ANSWER 2: A husband is a lover

Notes:

- Love as Christ loved the church (discuss how Christ loved the church)
- Love as your own bodies (discuss how you love your own body)
- Love overcomes bitterness (love & bitterness don't mix)
- Anyone can take, love gives (Christ gave, he didn't take)

1 Peter 3:7a (1188) *Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.*

ANSWER 3: A husband is a learner

Malachi Men Lesson 7 “Marriage” Part 2 Facilitators Notes

Notes:

- The world says “who can understand a woman?”
- God says “you can know your wife”
- Study your wife in order to understand her (what does she like/dislike, what are her strengths/weaknesses, struggles, what is unique about her, etc.)
- A “weaker vessel” is like fine china that needs to be cherished and protected
- Her problems are your problems
- Men who dishonor and abuse their wives have their prayers hindered

1 Timothy 5:8 (1164) But if anyone *does not provide for his own*, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is *worse than an unbeliever*.

2 Thessalonians 3:10-12 (1161) For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: *if anyone will not work, neither shall he eat*, for we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies. Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.

ANSWER 4: A husband is a provider

Notes:

- Godly husbands provide for their family
- Godly husbands are not idle, disorganized, or busybodies

Deuteronomy 24:5 (220) When a man has taken *a new wife*, he shall *not go out to war* or be charged with any business; he shall be free at home one year, and bring happiness to his wife whom he has taken.

Note: God says marriage is more important than defending your country!

Proverbs 5:18-19 (647) Let your fountain be blessed, and *rejoice with the wife of your youth*. As a loving deer and a graceful doe, let her breasts satisfy you at all times; and always be enraptured with her love.

Ecclesiastes 9:9 (675) *Live joyfully with the wife whom you love* all the days of your vain life which He has given you under the sun, all your days of vanity; for that is your portion in life, and in the labor which you perform under the sun.

ANSWER 5: A husband is a joyful mate

Notes:

- Be a joy to your mate, and enjoy your mate
- Keep sex within marriage

Malachi Men Lesson 7 “Marriage” Part 2 Facilitators Notes

SUMMARY:

- Sex is only within marriage
- A husband is accountable to Jesus Christ
- A husband has many roles
 - Leader (servant protector)
 - Lover (caring and cherishing, as a treasure)
 - Learner (knowing his wife very well)
 - Provider (taking care of daily needs)
 - Joyful helper (a joy to be with)

HOMEWORK:

Memorize: Ephesians 5:25

Read: Ephesians 4:1-3

Answer the following questions:

- What are some of the characteristics of a follower of Christ?
- What are the results of acquiring these characteristics?
- Note: Paul wrote Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians while in prison

Read: Proverbs 10:12, 12:18, 13:10, 15:1, 16:21, 16:32, 19:11

Answer the following questions:

- What are some common themes in these verses?
- What are the benefits of wise speech?
- What are the dangers of harsh speech?
- How can you become more persuasive?
- How do you bring healing and become a peacemaker?
- What is one mark of a wise man?
- How can godly speech help you be a better husband or father?

Memory Verse: (repeat as a group)

Ephesians 5:25 (1148) Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her.

Memory Hint: Always learn the Bible reference (where the verse is located in the Bible). Knowing the “address” will allow you to help others, and quote with authority. Repeat the reference (for example: John 3:16) before and after repeating the verse.

Prayer Time: