

MARRIED LIFE

Week One | Marriage's Purpose | 02.12-13.2022

Grow Deep Conversation Questions: Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90-minute group gathering.

Series Recap: It can be challenging to know if you're on the same page as a couple. So join us this weekend for the start of a two-week series to discover the purpose and perseverance of marriage. You'll even get custom resources to help you as a couple.

»» Opening

(3 minutes)

- Introductions - This is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members.
- Housekeeping - Clarify expectations:
 - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting.
 - **Remember, there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.**
- Pray - Open your time together in prayer.

»» Introduction

(12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: Describe the perfect marriage?
- Digging Deeper: What was something that happened in your marriage that surprised you?

»» Observation | Read Ephesians 5:22-33; Matthew 19:1-12

(12 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to this passage? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

»» Key Principle | The goal of marriage is holiness, not happiness.

(12 minutes)

- When romantic feelings or emotional happiness is the goal of marriage, what are the consequences of that relationship long-term?

»» Covenants are Designed/Contracts are Determined | Reread Ephesians 5:22-24

(12 minutes)

- Covenants and contracts seem a lot different from one another; what are the key differences that stand out to you and what difference do they make?

»» Covenants are Sacrificial/Contracts are Self-Serving | Reread Ephesians 5:25-33

(12 minutes)

- God's design for humanity and marriage seems much different than where we have drifted. Where in your mind or your personal marriage have you let contract thinking leak in?

»» Covenants are Permanent/Contracts are Temporary | Reread Matthew 19:1-12

(12 minutes)

- What is a step of obedience you can take in seeing your marriage as a covenant for your holiness rather than a contract for your convenience and happiness?

»» Next Steps and Prayer |

(15 minutes)

- Take the Couple Check-Up we have provided during this series, your results are confidential and it's free to you with the code below:
 - [Assessment](#) - You can also find the link at ehills.org/weekend
 - Voucher Code - EHILLS-COUPLE-CHECKUP
- Close by praying for one another's marriages. Pray for healing and restoration.