

Small Group Study

Marriage and the Kingdom

From the sermon series, "Living a Christ-Centered Life"



A donkey transformed for a Greek wedding with bunches of white oleander, fronds of olive, pearls, cream silk ribbon, and a white hand-crocheted lace coverlet thrown over his saddle

SCRIPTURE

Have a volunteer read the following scripture:

1 Corinthians 7:32-35

QUESTIONS

Please feel free to adjust this study to fit your group's needs and to listen to the direction of the Holy Spirit. It is not necessary to use all of the questions.

1. Do you think Christians put too much emphasis on marriage as a key to fulfillment and happiness?
2. When you were single, what were your primary motivations for getting married? If you are currently single, what do you hope you will experience in marriage?

Icebreakers

Use the questions below to help people open up and to focus your meeting. It is very helpful to go around in a circle with the leader going first. (Remember if you have new members or guests you should take time to introduce everyone.)

1. If you are married, tell us briefly (1 minute or less) about your wedding day. If you are single, tell us what you would want it to be like.

2. Whom do you know who has chosen to remain single?

3. What is the longest anyone you personally know has been married?



3. In light of this passage, do the strengths of marriage outweigh the potential drawbacks?
4. If you are married, how have your spouse and you worked through distresses and troubles in your life? Have these trials bonded you in your love for Jesus Christ and one another? If so, how?
5. What have your spouse and you learned over the years that you could share with others?
6. How can we avoid allowing a good thing (marriage) to take the place of the best thing (devotion to Christ)?
7. If you are married, how would you advise couples who are married or engaged to put Christ first? How have you succeeded in fulfilling this goal in your own marriage? How have you failed?
8. If you are single, have you maximized your singleness by putting Christ first? In what ways have you demonstrated devotion to Christ during your single years? How have you found significance and fulfillment in your love relationship with Christ?
9. If you are single, divorced, or widowed, are you willing to seek counsel and input from godly and mature believers on a prospective mate if that is what God has for you? Would you be willing to honor Christ with celibacy if that is what He calls you to?
10. How can we learn to submit our will more fully to Christ?

God bless,

Roger Sodsod
Small Group Pastor, Vineyard Church
email: rsodsod@vineyardkcnorth.com