

DISCUSSION GUIDE

BETTER: Part Three, Marriage

October 2, 2022



Key Things You Heard

- Mutual submission
- Words of affirmation
- Quality time
- Acts of Service
- Physical touch
- Gifts

Pray

Heavenly Father, We need solid and biblically-based marriages. We need to learn your ways and your expectations. Help us to order our lives according to God's Word and help us grow close to each other in the process. In Jesus' name, amen.

Sticky Statement

"The Bible is crystal clear. We were designed to mate for life."

Questions for Discussion

Icebreaker: Suppose you had a farmer who needs to transport a fox, a chicken, and some corn across a river. He only has a small boat that can only carry him and one of them with him per crossing. The farmer needs to get all three items across the river in one piece, but there is a problem. He can't leave the fox with the chicken alone as the fox will eat the chicken. Likewise, he can't leave the chicken with the corn as the chicken will munch down on the corn. How can the farmer solve the problem? (You can find the solution here: <https://www.popularmechanics.com/technology/news/a23688/solution-to-riddle-of-the-week-1-the-farmers-dilemma>)

1. Read Ephesians 5:21-33. Why is it important to read, understand and remember verse 21 and verse 30 before you read verse 22 or 25?

What is the model for marriage in this passage of scripture?

(The church, verse 32.)

What is the common thread between how the wife should submit to the husband and how the husband should love the wife?

What does it look like for the church to submit to Christ?

What does it look like for Christ to love the church?

How should understanding these images help us relate to our spouse?

2. This week we heard about the "Crazy Cycle." Without love, she reacts without respect... without respect, he reacts without love. Have you ever found yourself amid the crazy cycle?

Would you be willing to share an example?

How is the crazy cycle broken?

Who can break the crazy cycle?

3. Gary Chapman suggests there are five languages of love. Which do you think is your spouse's primary love language?

Which one is your love language? If you need a refresher, here's the list: Words of affirmation; Quality time; Acts of service; Physical touch; Gifts

Challenge: Take the Five Languages of Love quiz. Share the results with your spouse. <https://www.5lovelanguages.com/quizzes/love-language>. And GO ON A DATE!

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