



Small Group Discipleship Guide

October 11: Eph 5:21-33 – Main Ingredient to a Great Marriage

CONNECT

A few minutes of care, celebration, and prayer.

1. How have you seen God at work this week?
 2. What is one celebration and one challenge that we can pray about today? (*pray now*)
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REFLECT

Look back on how God worked through last week's commitments.

3. Last week, each of us committed to take one step of obedience. How did it go?
 4. Who were you able to encourage, serve, invite, or share with?
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DISCUSS

5. **Read Ephesians 5:21-33.** What does "submit" in this passage add to our understanding beyond the word "love"?
6. Dave described the passage as teaching "mutual submission." How does the image of the altar in a wedding help make this point?
7. Describe a time when your closest friendships (including the friendship you have with your spouse) challenged you and helped make you more Christlike.
8. The vows provided at the conclusion of the series become more powerful as they are declared publicly rather than just remain a private intention. Consider taking a moment for each to share them in turn if you feel it is appropriate for your group and context:

Married Vows

I choose you again today, and I vow to pursue God's purpose for you and for our life together. I commit to never stop pursuing you. I vow to appreciate who you are rather than resent who I expect

Legacy exists to make disciples by helping people Follow Jesus • Grow in Community • Go on Mission.

you to be. I vow to share my whole life with you—heart, soul, mind, and body, and I vow to seek your good before my own.

Unmarried Vows

I choose Christ first, and I vow not to postpone God's purpose for my life. I commit not to wait for another season to live fully and invest deeply. I vow to receive the life God has given me rather than resent the life I expected. I vow to share my life deeply with God and others while honoring His design for intimacy. I vow to follow Jesus by seeking the good of others before my own.

RESPOND

Write these commitments down.

9. **Follow Jesus:** What is one step of obedience God is asking you to take this week?
 10. **Grow in Community:** How can this group pray for you, encourage you, or hold you accountable as you take that step.
 11. **Go on Mission:** Who is one person God is placing on your heart to encourage, serve, invite, or share Jesus with this week?
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