

DISCUSSION GUIDE

FAMILY MATTERS | MARRIAGE

SEPT. 15/16 | EPHESIANS 5

FOR STARTERS

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged you or raised questions?
2. What are the first words that come to your mind when you hear the word 'marriage'? What are the current cultural expectations around marriage? How does this passage intersect with those expectations?

DIGGING IN

1. Read Jesus' words on marriage in Matt. 19:4-6. What are you learning about leaving, uniting and becoming one?
2. Read Eph. 21-33. What does Paul have to say to married people?
3. How do you find this passage? Are you encouraged or challenged?
4. How can a marriage reflect Christ and the church? What difference does the Holy Spirit in us make? Cf Eph. 5:18-20, Gal. 5:22-25.

BRINGING IT HOME

1. How can we encourage the marriages in our group or in our lives?
2. What needs to happen to move you from criticism to gratitude, from defensiveness to wanting to please your spouse, from contempt to forgiveness, from stonewalling to loving and respecting your spouse?
3. Use the Word of God to pray for each other. Pray through Eph. 5:21-33 and Phil. 2:1-5.

MESSAGE NOTES

Belonging to a small group is a great way to grow spiritually. If you would like to join a group or get more information, contact Cheryl McNamee at cmcnamee@doorcreekchurch.org