

Week of 2/13/22 Eph. 5:22-33 We Model Christ and the Church

The Bigger Picture:

- **The Group Leader Training** was packed full of info and inspiration for multiplying groups. What was your biggest takeaway? Let ann@radiuschurch.org know - responses will be published in future editions of the Guide.
- If you or your apprentice were unable to come to the training - reach out to your Campus Pastor, Groups rep or ann@radiuschurch.org to schedule a time to get the quick version and the handouts. The training was recorded and will be posted on the Small Group Leaders resource page soon!
- Leaders need community too! Be on the lookout for more information about **Group Leader Huddles** - coming soon.

This Week's Goals:

Discover together how marriage reflects Christ's love for His Church.

Discuss the idea of submission and its negative and positive connotations in today's culture.

Examine what the passage says about how husbands and wives reflect Jesus as they love each other.

Multiplication Moment:

Use the "Eye Test" this week in small group— whose eyes light up when the scripture conversation gets deep, or whose eyes are warm when someone opens up about a struggle? They may be an Apprentice!

Leader Tips:

Married groups - the week of Valentines Day is a great week to take a cue from Lex. Group Leaders the Duttons. Invite your couples to share "How it started/How it's going" stories about their marriage. You'll get some great insight on how they met, how they've grown, and what their dreams are.

STORIES (15 min)

Sharing God Stories:

Use the "how it started/how it's going theme" to tell marriage stories (see Leader Tips) OR to prompt stories about how members met Jesus or started going to church.

Get Talking:

Ask the group: What is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the word "submit."

Prayer: Transition from Stories to Scripture by asking someone to pray for your time in God's Word.

SCRIPTURE (45 min) - These are our Group Chat Questions for this week:

Why is marriage important? What can make it challenging or messy?

Read Ephesians 5:18-21. What does it mean to be filled with the Spirit? Why is this an important command for marriage?

Read Ephesians 5:22-23:

- **What does Paul mean by “submit” in verses 21 and 22?**
- **Why is this a difficult topic in our culture?**
- **How is a husband called to love his wife?**
- **As a husband or wife, how can you practically live out these instructions in Ephesians 5?**

PRAYER (20 min)

The Bible says that earthly marriage is a picture of the larger spiritual reality of our eternal covenant relationship with Jesus. Respond to this truth in your own words.

Married Groups - Divide by couples and pray the truth about yourselves and your marriage. Thank God for specific ways He has blessed and sustained you. Ask Him to help in areas you're weak or struggling.

Others - Divide into pairs or smaller clusters. Pray for the health of the marriages represented in the room. Thank God for healthy marriages that have blessed or impacted you.