

WISH YOU WERE HERE

FAMILY DEVOTION



Week 11: Ephesians 5:21-33

1. Have you ever struggled with the idea or metaphor of the Church (all Christians) being a bride & Jesus is the groom? What do you think about that metaphor? Why do you think God uses this metaphor?
2. Who is a couple you personally know that has been married the longest? How do you think they were able to be married for so long?
3. Current statistics show that 41% of first-time marriages end in divorce and that the divorce rate has nearly doubled since 1950. Why do you think we are seeing an increase in these statistics? Can anything be done to lower these numbers in the future?
4. One of the most difficult things for newlyweds is learning to live with another person who is so different from them. What would you say are one or two main differences between men & women in general? If you are married, what are one or two main differences between you and your spouse (be careful & nice)? How have you learned to navigate those differences in your marriage?
5. One of the traits we discussed this week that makes for a good spouse is trust. But, trust is really required for any healthy relationship. Would you say you are a trusting person? Why?/Why not? What things do you do to try to be (or show others you are) a trustworthy person?
6. Two other traits discussed specifically for the husband are to protect & provide for his wife. This is what Jesus does for us as his bride. Describe a time when you know God showed you protection and/or provision.
7. Describe a time when you submitted to Christ even though you really didn't want to. How did that situation turn out? Was it worth the "risk" to submit?

This Week's Prayers

- If you are single and have never been married, pray for God to help you grow in traits that will make you a more godly spouse when that time comes in your life.
- If you are married, pray FOR your spouse everyday this week. If possible, pray WITH your spouse at least once this week.
- If you are divorced or widowed, pray for God to supply all you need in every area of your life while you are without a spouse.

