

Life Group /Reflection Questions

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add in any optional scriptures and questions if needed, then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Main Idea: Marriage is not easy. Do you remember your vow of loving each other for better or for worse? You are guaranteed to face tough times together as a couple, but you cannot give up when times get tough. It's not an option. This week you will read from God's Word about the importance of not giving up in your marriage and discuss ways you can do this in your marriage.

Key Questions:

What did God use to get your attention in the message this past week?

Describe a time when you encountered a tough time in your relationship. How did you get through it? How did that experience affect your relationship?

How do you see the difference between contract and covenant in marriage today?

What and where are you sowing in your relationship currently? Are you pleased with your harvest, or do you need to make some changes?

Do you tend to be more selfish or selfless in your relationship?

How have you seen divorce affect your family or the families of those you know?

Next Steps:

What are some specific things you've learned from this series that you are going to do to ensure that you never give up in your marriage?



NEVER GIVE UP

March 29, 2015

Wave Church SD

FROM THIS DAY FORWARD

FIVE COMMITMENTS TO FAIL PROOF YOUR MARRIAGE

From This Day Forward NEVER GIVE UP

SEEK GOD
FIGHT FAIR
HAVE FUN
STAY PURE
NEVER GIVE UP

³ *Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?”*

⁴ *“Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’⁵ and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’?⁶ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.* (Matthew 19:3-6, NIV)

MARRIAGE IS A COVENANT NOT A CONTRACT

A CONTRACT IS BASED ON MUTUAL **DISTRUST**.

A COVENANT IS BASED ON MUTUAL **COMMITMENT**.

³¹ *“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”³² This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.³³ However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.*

(Ephesians 5:31-33, NIV)

SOWING AND REAPING IN MARRIAGE

⁷ *Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.⁸ Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.⁹ Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.* (Galatians 6:7-9, NIV)

YOU REAP **WHAT** YOU SOW.

How To Stick With a Marriage Even When It Is Tough

1. Deepen your roots with God
2. Recognize and use resources
3. Cling to a healthy couple
4. Find or create positive memories
5. Commit to connect

YOU REAP **WHERE** YOU SOW.

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6 Purposes of Marriage

1. Elimination of loneliness
2. Expression of Sex
3. Multiplication of the Human Race
4. Protection & Education of Children (Eph 6:4)
5. Perfection of our character (1 Cor 7:14)
6. Reflection of our Union with Christ (Eph 5:31-33)

²⁰ *“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.*

(John 17:20-23, NIV)