

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Acting Out Your Wedding Vows | Week 11

1. Catch Up On Life:

This is when we update each other on the day in and day out happenings of our lives. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

- Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?
- What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)?

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

2. Review the Mission:

Just like God the Father sent Jesus on a mission of reconciliation for us, Jesus sends us out as ambassadors of His reconciliation. We are called to make disciples wherever we go. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

People:

- Reactive - Who in your life (family, coworkers, etc.) can we join you in praying for? Who has God put around you that is showing spiritual interest? Who is hurting and could use some love from our group?
- Proactive - Who are the people we are intentionally living on mission with (neighbors, STC partner organizations, or a specific demographic in Columbia)? What are our upcoming plans to love, serve and build relationships with this group?

Plan:

- Are there any rhythms already planned, or an extra rhythm we could plan, to create a way for these friends to connect with our group?

Pray: Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs, and opportunities to have spiritual conversations that help them take next steps toward Jesus.

3. Sermon Discussion:

God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, to equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a LifeGroup throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25)

Primary Passage: 1 Corinthians 7:1-5

Read and Recap: Have someone read **1 Corinthians 7:1-5** and recap the highlights from this week's sermon.

God's good design for sex is only meant to be discovered within a covenant relationship between one husband and one wife.

If you are married:

- Which of the two cultural worldviews of sex do you tend to lean towards (that's it's ultimate or that it's insignificant)?
- Are you content with your sex life with your spouse? How are you dealing with any discontentment?
- Which of the typical issues from the sermon that can prevent a frequent, healthy sex life seem prevalent in your marriage? (Lack of desire, past hurt, relational disunity, insecurity, physical issues, etc.)
- What conversations do you need to have with your spouse this week (discussing expectations about your sex life, things keeping you from healthy intimacy, resentment towards one another etc)?
- What are steps you need to take to pursue a healthy sex life with your spouse?

If you are single:

- In the sermon we said that though sex is beautiful and good, it is not ultimate. You can live a full, whole, complete life without sex. When is it hardest for you to believe this about your singleness?
- Do you have friends that are married? How have you shied away from speaking into married friends' lives because you are not married?

- How are you cultivating deep relationships with believers outside of a marriage relationship?
- What disciplines are you practicing to cultivate intimacy with Jesus, the only real source of fulfillment and contentment we need?

Pray that the Holy Spirit would move us to confess and repent any relational or sexual brokenness within our lives. Pray that we would continue to grow in being totally satisfied in Jesus as the only source of contentment.



How would you help your non-Christian friends see that sex within a marriage is good but not the ultimate goal? What would you say if they asked why sex exclusively in a marriage covenant is best?

Engage the Heart:

Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10)

- What are you doing that you shouldn't be doing? What are you not doing that you should be doing?
- In what areas of your faith are you thriving, and where are you struggling?

Pray: James tells us that a community that regularly confesses sin and prays for each other will see a lot of healing. Confess your sins in prayer and pray for each other.