



THE FAMILY OF GOD

Week 5 | Marriage in the Family of God

1. Catch Up On Life:

As a 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, 15).

Suggested time: 10-20 minutes

- How are you doing?
- What can you thank God for this week?
- When were you most aware of Jesus' presence this week?
When were you least aware of Jesus' presence this week?
- Do you have any practical needs? (If so, please visit our [Needs page](#))

For LifeGroup training resources check out [MidtownLifeGroups.com](https://www.midtownlifegroups.com)

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)

Suggested time: 10-20 minutes

- **People:** Who in your life can you be building with right now? What does that look like during this season?
- **Plan:** Are there any rhythms planned (virtual or in-person) that we can invite these friends into? What spiritual conversations do you want to initiate with them soon?
- **Pray:** Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs, opportunities to connect, 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, equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, show us our sin, and strengthen us as we follow Him (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12, and James 1:22-25).

Suggested Time: 20-40 minutes

i. Scripture Discussion

Primary Passages: **Ephesians 5:22-23** and **Revelation 19:6-9**

Read **Ephesians 5:22-23** and **Revelation 19:6-9** out loud. Spend some time silently reflecting and journaling the following questions as a LifeGroup.

- What stands out from the passage?
- What does this passage reveal to us about God?
- What does this passage reveal to us about people?
- Share with one another what you thought, reflected, and wrote about.

For tools and resources to grow in your walk with Jesus, go to [FollowingJesusTogether.com](https://www.followingjesustogether.com)

ii. Sermon Discussion

What stood out to you from the sermon?

In the sermon, we contrasted an American Marriage versus a Christian marriage in the chart below.

American Marriage	Christian Marriage
A consumer relationship.	A covenant relationship.
Has limited resources.	Has supernatural resources.
Primarily concerned with happiness.	Primarily concerned with holiness.
An end in itself.	A means to glorify God.

Of the four descriptions given for an American marriage, what stood out to you the most? Why?

Whether you're single or married, the sin in us tempts us to believe the lie that marriage is ultimately about our own happiness. How does this show up in your life?

Of the four descriptions given for Christian marriage, what stood out to you the most? Why?

Since marriage is not about us but about Jesus, what's one thing you can repent of this week to die to yourself, lift up Jesus, and show honor to your spouse?

4. 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)

Suggested Time: 10-20 minutes

- How are you doing abiding with Jesus this week in Scripture and prayer? (If you haven't yet, consider following along in our Matthew Bible Reading Plan and working through our practice for this series, journaling.)
- What sin do you need to confess to God? What are you struggling to trust Jesus with this week? How can you give Him control of it? (As people confess sin, make sure to remind one another of the good news Jesus offers. If need be, use the worksheet "Go-to Verses for Gospel Fluency" at FollowingJesusTogether.com/confession)

Pray: Close your time together by praying for one another

- Pray for the Spirit to work in you as you take steps of repentance
- Pray for God to meet the needs of those in your group
- Pray for the sick and vulnerable at this time of crisis