



Grace Group Guide



United Purpose: Together we will designate time and place to deepening our desire for God, caring for and urging each other to action!

United Actions: WL Groups...

- Scripture:** Be in the Word together
- Encouragement:** One another each other
- Prayer:** With and for each other and the lost
- Accountability:** Now What? Put it into action!



-Ice Breaker-

- *For married couples:* What did you think marriage was going to be like before you got married? And when did you realize that you had a lot more to learn?
- *For singles:* What have you been told/taught about marriage? What do you expect marriage to be like?
 - **Transition:** Today, we're going to focus on marriage. Like many other areas of life, we are told lots of different things about marriage that can impact our perspective, and we all bring different expectations to the table. Today, we'll see what God has to say about marriage, and we should make it our goal to align our perspective on marriage with His.

-Discussion-

Read Colossians 3:18-19 and Ephesians 5:21-33

- What does Biblical submission in marriage look like? What is the husband commanded to do, and what is the wife commanded to do?
 - **Leader Note:** Feel free to answer this question using the above passages, drawing from Sam's sermon last week, and/or this week's sermon (if you've been in the service already)
 - **Potential Answers:**
 - Husbands are to love their wives like Christ loved the church. They are not to be harsh with their wives but instead care for them and serve them.
 - Wives are to submit to their husband's authority and respect them.
- Why is it significant that marriage reflects Christ's relationship to the church? How should this impact your perspective on marriage?
 - **Potential answer:** Marriage has spiritual significance. Done well, it is a beautiful picture of the gospel!
- How does the Bible's view of marriage compare to other prominent views of marriage? What makes biblical marriage so unique?

-Reflection-

- *For married couples:* Does your marriage reflect this picture of Christ and the church? What are you and your spouse doing well? What are you and your spouse not doing as well?

- **Leader Note:** you may want to give the members of your group time to think about this together with their spouse before they share with the group.
- *For singles:* How does your view of marriage compare with the biblical view? Have you seen good examples of biblical marriage? If so, explain what makes them a good example.

-Application-

- *For married couples:*
 - Schedule a time with your spouse to evaluate your marriage based on these passages.
 - After that, write down some practical steps to help you both grow in your marriage, and commit to doing them!
- *For singles:*
 - Commit to praying about marriage this week...
 - Ask God to help you see marriage the way He has designed it.
 - Ask God to strengthen the marriages of those around you.
 - If you desire to be married, ask Him to provide you with a spouse in His good timing and to help you trust Him in the meantime.

-Pray-

- Thank God for the beauty of biblical marriage.
- Ask the Lord to reveal your shortcomings as a husband, a wife, or a single, and ask Him to help you grow in this area.