



Group Discussion Guide: Marriage | November 14, 2021

Begin with prayer for your marriage, for the marriages in our church, and for those who are unmarried (15 minutes).

As you begin, ask everyone to write on a notecard or sheet of paper the name of the person they're married to (if married), the names of married friends, and the names of unmarried friends.

Once each person has done this, give them space to pray for the people on this list.

Once the allotted private prayer time is finished, have someone pray over all the marriages in our church family.

Read Scripture + debrief the sermon as a group (45 minutes).

- How did this sermon about being All In on marriage challenge you? How did it encourage you?
- Read the following passages and discuss what they reveal about being All In on marriage: **Genesis 2:18-25; Matthew 19:4-6; Ephesians 5:22-33.**
- On a sheet of paper or in your phone, list out ways that would depict what being All In on your marriage might look like. Share the list with your group. What does being All In on marriage mean to you? If you're unmarried, what would it look like for you to be All In on a potential, *future* marriage or All In on the marriages that currently exist in our church?
- Is the focus of your marriage/life "Jesus first?" What other competing priorities exist within your marriage/life? Do you want your marriage/life to be "Jesus first"? What would that look like?
- What barriers (cultural, emotional, relational, geographical, etc.) do people face today that prevent them from being All In on marriage? What barriers prevent you from being All In on marriage?
- In this message, Dan and Keren mentioned how being All In on marriage means being all in on God's Word. What role do the Scriptures play in your marriage? What role do you want them to play in your marriage?



- Part of being dedicated and committed to marriage means being dedicated to your own spiritual maturity. Why is aiming for spiritual maturity important within a marriage? How can you, married or unmarried, strive for personal spiritual maturity right now?
- How has your spouse helped you grow to look, live, and love more like Jesus?
- Why is friendship in marriage important? Do you think that friendship is the most important thing to foster in a marital relationship? Why or why not? If you're unmarried, what would it look like to date with a friendship-focus?
- What is one specific practice you can do this week to honor and love your spouse better? What is one way you can encourage a married couple in your life this week?

Split into gendered accountability groups (25 minutes).

Throughout this series, we'll create space each week to have accountability with one another. This will provide each person a more intimate, and hopefully, safer space to share where they might struggle with being All In on their family, marriage, God, or the Kingdom. Here are a few questions to guide this time after you separate into gendered groups:

- Have you loved your spouse well lately? How so?
- How is it with your marriage... *really*?

Are there any wounds or struggles in your marriage that prevent you from loving your spouse fully? Any betrayals of trust? Any lies that are existing? Any sin patterns that need confessed?

You're not alone. The enemy wants to keep these things in the dark. Share boldly.

Once sharing has occurred, pray over each person.

- Is there anything else you'd like to share about your marriage that you haven't already?
- If you're unmarried, does a conversation like this bother you? Explain. Where do you wrestle as you listen to a sermon and participate in a conversation like this? How can this group pray for you?



Finish with intercessory prayer (5 minutes).

Like each week, finish your group session with prayer. You might designate someone in your group to write down everyone's prayer requests and then send them to the whole group for everyone to be praying about through the week.

- What is on your heart that you need prayer for?
- Who in your life needs prayer?

Have someone close in prayer.