SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of March 6-12, 2022 "LOVE FOR A LIFETIME"

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

What do you think is the main reason for the deterioration of marriages in our day? Why?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read Genesis 2:15-25

- 1. After God had created Adam, where did he put him? What task does God assign to Adam and what do you think is significant about this?
- 2. What did God mean when he said, "It is not good for man to be alone"? Eve is described as Adam's "helper." What are some ways people might misunderstand and thus misapply this term "helper"?
- 3. What do you observe about the similarities, differences and uniquenesses of male and female? In what ways are a husband and wife meant to complement each other? If you're married, how have you "complemented" your spouse? What are some of the dangers involved when someone looks at marriage as a means to 'meet my personal needs'? (For the single, what does it mean to be a complement to someone?)
- 4. Read Genesis 2:24. Jesus and Paul both quote this verse (cf Matthew 19:5, Ephesians 5:31). What principles does this verse give about marriage?
- 5. How is marriage a unity? How is marriage permanent? What does it mean that two become one flesh? Is it possible for two Christians married to one another to be "irreconcilably incompatible"?
- 6. The Bible considers marriage as a covenant (cf Proverbs 2:16-17; Malachi 2:14). Why is this important?

7. (For the singles.) How do you prepare for marriage? Do you think the instruction from 2 Corinthians 6:14 is still relevant today?

8. NEXT STEPS

- I will follow God's blueprint for marriage.
- ☐ I will seek God's mercy and blessing for my marriage.
- ☐ (For the single) I will prepare to be the person God wants me to be.
- ☐ I will pray for my couple friends who have strayed from God's pattern.

Don't forget to:

- Go through the devotionals everyday this week.
- ☐ Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.
- Commit 30 minutes a day for God's intervention in this fight against the COVID virus

CLOSING THE SESSION.

Close the session by taking the time to <u>pray for one another</u>. Consider the following as you pray:

- (For the married) Pray for a stronger marriage in the Lord.
- (For the single) Pray for stronger marriage for the beloved Christian couples close to you.
- Take the time to pray for our nation, for peace and for the gospel to prosper during this time of the pandemic.
- Pray for those who are hurting, going through fear, worry and anxiety in the group.
- Pray for your unsayed family, friends and loved ones.

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE.

- March 7 James 4:1-10
- March 8 Ephesians 5:15-21
- March 9 Ephesians 5:22-23
- March 10 1 Peter 3:1-6
- March 11 Psalms 63:1-8
- March 12 1 Timothy 6:1-6
- March 13 Matthew 19:1-9