

Small Group Discussion Questions



// Week of March 17, 2024

LEADER INFO

- Easter is coming up!
 - Saturday, March 30th - 2:30pm & 4:30pm
 - Sunday, March 31st - 8:00am, 9:30 & 11:15am
- If anyone needs support in the area of issues surrounding sex, relationships or body image, invite them to text the word "CARE" to 604-670-3040

GROW This section is based on the sermon from Sunday. You can find it here: <https://www.southsidelife.com/>

ICE BREAKER What was one highlight of your week? One lowlight?

The Gift of Sex

"1 Thessalonians 3:12 "May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other, and for everyone else..."

Read

Proverbs 5:15-25

Drink water from your own cistern,
running water from your own well.
Should your springs overflow in the streets,
your streams of water in the public squares?
Let them be yours alone,

never to be shared with strangers.
May your fountain be blessed,
and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth.
A loving doe, a graceful deer—
may her breasts satisfy you always,
may you ever be intoxicated with her love.

Proverbs 30:18-19

“There are three things that are too amazing for me,
four that I do not understand:
the way of an eagle in the sky,
the way of a snake on a rock,
the way of a ship on the high seas,
and the way of a man with a young woman.

Here’s how a prostitute operates:
she has sex with her client,
Takes a bath,
then asks, “Who’s next?”

1 Thessalonians 3:12

May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for
each other and for everyone else

1. What does Proverbs have to say about sex?

- a. God binds each and everyone of us together in intricate ways. What are some intricacies in how He made you?

- b. Throughout human history, there have always been 2 main reasons why men have chosen to get married:
 - i. To increase social, political or economic status or

- ii. To start a family
 - 1. The Bible is, and always has been, counter-cultural. Here are some counter-cultural instructions for marriage in the Bible:
 - a. Husband and Wife should be best friends... equal
[Ecclesiastes 4:9-12]
 - i. Discuss
 - b. Love one another, regardless of race, social-standing or gender *[Ephesians 4:2, Romans 12:9, Romans 13:10]*
 - i. Discuss
 - c. Husband and Wife are to mutually submit to each other
[Romans 12:10, Ephesians 5:33, 1 Thessalonians 5:11]
 - i. Discuss
 - d. Romance and pleasure are should be pursued (and continually pursued) within the context of marriage *[Mark 10:6-9, Proverbs 5:15-19, Song of Songs 7:6-12]*
 - i. Discuss

2. There's Beauty in the Struggle

- a. "Get married, stay married, stay faithful, be best friends, continue pursuing love and pleasure together..."
 - i. Does that sound like a tall order to you?

- b. Our spiritual enemy, the devil, doesn't want us to believe that there's beauty in the struggle in the area of our marriages and relationships.
 - i. Discuss.

- c. There's something captivating about perseverance. This was illustrated by Pastor Mike's examples of the Oilers seeing the Stanley Cup winning New York Islanders covered in ice packs after their win, and John Wesley's diary entries of numerous experiences of getting kicked out of church, until 10,000 people showed up to hear him preach one evening.
 - i. What would it look to really persevere in a/your marriage?

3. Using the Gift

- a. Pastor Mike used the illustration of receiving Oilers tickets for Christmas and telling the gift-giver that he can't wait to use them as a bookmark. When the giver explained that that's not what the gift was intended to be used for, Mike exclaimed "How dare you tell me how to use this gift you gave me!"
 - i. Discuss how this relates to how we often view/use the gift of sex and God's role in it.

- b. Sex outside of the lifelong context of marriage is like saying either:
 - i. "I'm not sure I can handle your personality, hopes, dreams, good days, bad days and failures long term... but I'll take your sex!"
 - ii. Or "I don't trust you with my personality, hopes, dreams, good days, bad days and failures. You can just have my sex."
 1. Discuss

- c. "What is bound-together by God should not be broken"
 - i. Why does this apply to sex?
 1. How can we pray for you in the area of sex and relationships?

PRAY