MARRIAGE MYTHS: 1+1=2

Pastor Derek Sanford

November 1, 2015

Life Group Discussion Questions:

1. Thinking back on this week’s sermon, was there a particular point that stood out to you or challenged you?
2. Read **Ephesians 5: 31-33**. How do Paul’s words regarding this “mystery” or “secret” offer us guidance for our day-to-day level of commitment to our spouse?

3. *“Become “One” in prioritizing one another”*

Which is more difficult for you, to leave one’s parents or to cleave to one’s new husband/wife? Why?

4. *“Become One in Exalting Christ”*

When God is at the center of our marriages, He moves us along the continuum from self-centeredness to a servant orientation. Where have you had the privilege of witnessing this, perhaps in your parents or grandparents marriage? What sort of Christ-like growth did you observe? Is anybody in the group willing to share a personal example of movement toward Christlikeness in your marriage?

5. *“Become One in sacrifice”*

In the context of **Ephesians 5:33** and Derek’s sermon, how does love differ from respect? How do the f*eelings* of love and respect differ from the essential *actions* of love and respect? What makes you feel loved,wives? Husbands, what makes you feel respected?

6. For Singles: *“Marriage is not better than singleness. The goal of both is Christlikeness.”*

Read **Philippians 2: 1-16**. What does it look like to have the attitude of Christ? How can pursuing Christ prepare you for marriage? In **verses 15-16** what does it look like to shine like stars in this generation? How can you ***“hold out the word of life***”?

*7.* Application:

A. Help your spouse connect to God- have a conversation about this.

B. After listening to the wisdom of your group, is there an action that *you* could employ to strengthen the oneness of your marriage?

C. In what other present-day relationships can you learn and grow in love and respect?

D. Take a step: Attend the Wednesday night discussion group, contact [GetHelp@whoisgrace.com](mailto:GetHelp@whoisgrace.com) for counseling or marriage mentoring

**Prayer Thought**: Ask God to help you to see your shortcomings as a husband or wife and ask Him to give you His patience with the weaknesses of your spouse.

**Memory Verse: Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate. Mark 10:9**