

en·gage

to involve oneself or become occupied; participate: *engage in conversation*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2009

"HONEST TALK ABOUT MARRIAGE AND THE SINGLE LIFE" PART 3 OF 4



Personal Prayers

1. Start your small group time off with prayer.
2. Ask for personal prayer request. In other words, have group members share request about them, not friends or family members.
3. Do the same for praises.

Impact List

Have 2-3 people share about people from their impact list.

1. What is the next step in their friendship with that person?
2. How can your small group pray for them?

Close to God

1. Have 2-3 people share what is happening in their "Close to God" time.
2. How have they grown closer to God?
3. How can your small group pray for them?

SERMON TITLE: "Spiritual Mismatch"

MAIN POINT/PASSAGE

- ▶ *In the midst of a spiritual mismatch, seek God's best./1 Cor. 7:12-16*

SERIES REVIEW

- ▶ What insight, principle, or observation from Sunday did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

STARTING QUESTIONS

- ▶ Describe circumstances you've experienced or witnessed involving a spiritually mismatched couple. How have they justified their decision?
- ▶ What is your personal attitude and belief towards this subject? If different from the churches do you have scripture to back it up?
- ▶ Stu talked about the tension created in a spiritually mismatched home. In reality, everyone, mismatched or not, has had intense conversations about spirituality in our homes. Describe how you and your spouse have reconciled these differences. (I.e. raising kids, which church/denomination to attend, etc.)
- ▶ If you are married, how much of a priority was this topic when considering your future spouse? What about as a single person?

DIGGING DEEPER (Questions in this section are from the Serendipity Bible for Groups)

- ▶ Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1
- ▶ What is a yoke? How is unequal yoking an apt metaphor in this context?
- ▶ To what do the opposites contrasted in verses 14-16 refer?
- ▶ In verses 16-18 in their OT context. What do these imply about having God as our Father?
- ▶ What does it mean that you are a dwelling place of God? What contaminants can affect your body? Your spirit? Is there something contaminating you now from which you should separate?

APPLICATION

- ▶ As you have heard this message and discussed the subject how do you need to apply this to your life?
- ▶ As a single person, create a Top 5 list that Stu referenced by selecting your top 5 qualities that you want in a future spouse.
- ▶ As a (grand) parent, begin talking with your (grand) children, at the appropriate age, about the importance of dating a Christian.
- ▶ If you are currently dating a non-Christian, how will you begin to talk with them about your beliefs and the future of the relationship?
- ▶ As a group, how can you help each other take the appropriate steps and help keep one another accountable?



Restoring our communities with Christ... one life at a time