

# en·gage

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2009

*"HONEST TALK ABOUT MARRIAGE AND THE SINGLE LIFE" PART 1 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:** *"Sex Inside and Outside the Marriage"*

## **MAIN POINT/PASSAGE**

- ▶ *"As a priceless child of God, honor Him sexually."/* 1 Corinthians 6:12-7:7

## **SERIES REVIEW**

- ▶ If needed, read the main point and passage to remind you of the sermon. What insight, principle, or observation from Sunday did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

## **STARTING QUESTIONS**

- ▶ Share your experience about having "the talk" with your kids.
- ▶ As a group, discuss the differences between the world's standard and God's standard when it comes to sex both inside and outside the marriage.
  - What is conveyed through the media?
  - What is conveyed through scripture?
  - What messages are sent to both married and single people?
- ▶ How have people (Christian and non-Christian) justified their sexual sin to you or others?
- ▶ As Christians how should we treat those with sexual sin in their past?
- ▶ If people are open enough and are ready, share about struggles in your past with sexual sin. How has God brought you through that experience? How did the church treat you? How can your story help others?

## **DIGGING DEEPER**

- ▶ Read Matthew 5:27-37
  - How are these 3 passages related in light of Stu's sermon?
  - What is the underlying issue Jesus is dealing with in these passages?
  - Why is sexual sin the only "out" God gives for a divorce?

## **APPLICATION**

- ▶ This is a heavy topic and one that may not have a specific action step, but a bunch of little action steps. If someone in the group is directly dealing with this issue and confesses that it is an issue, you may want to take some time to pray with and for them.
- ▶ Likewise, there may be some couples who have had some difficult experiences. As couples, take the time to walk through and talk about these issues. If needed, set up an appointment with Pastors Bob or Stu.
  - If you group is comfortable, hold each other accountable to getting the help or taking steps in the right direction.



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