

Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



ICEBREAKER

As David talked about the differences between men and women, what is one way in which you are distinctly different from your spouse (or parent or friend)?

OR

Have each person share one piece of marriage or relationship wisdom passed down to them from parents or mentors.

INTRODUCTION

What most stood out to you from Pastor David's message?

Read 1 Peter 3:1-7. What ideas did you take away from David's explanation of the "explosive words"? Do you agree that these are "explosive"?

INTO THE WORD

Read Ephesians 5:21. How does this verse speak to the issue of submission? Does the context of the Ephesians verse place it in the discussion of husbands and wives?

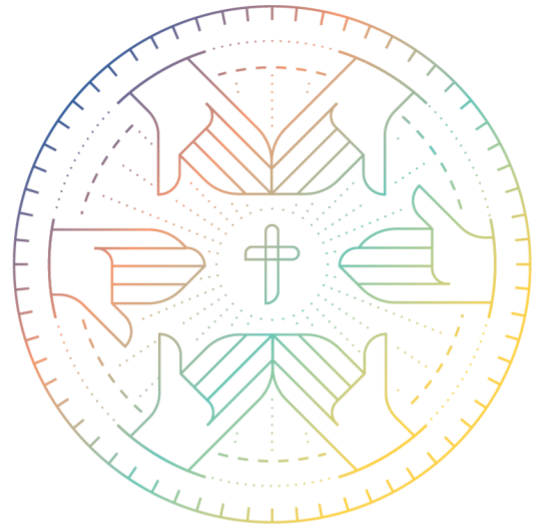
Read Galatians 3:28. How does this verse underscore the equality among ALL believers (which includes husbands and wives)?

Read Proverbs 31:10-12. How does this passage add definition to the "imperishable beauty" of women and wives, in particular?

Read Colossians 3:18-19. Explore the ways Paul describes marriage, from the view of the wife and the husband. How does Colossians 3:12--14 add further definition.

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APPLICATION

How is this biblical view of womanhood in marriage different from how society views the wife's part in marriage? How is this view of men's role in marriage different from how society views the husband's part in marriage?

Explore what the "Four Horsemen of Marriage Apocalypse" means in everyday life. Name some examples of this kind of behavior for each one.

1. Criticism
2. Contempt
3. Defensiveness
4. Stonewalling

How well are you doing in avoiding these things in your relationships?

DAILY THIS WEEK

If married, choose one of the virtues names in the above passages and focus on that virtue in your own life and marriage.

Husbands, study and ponder what it means to be kind and gentle toward your wife. Where can you improve?

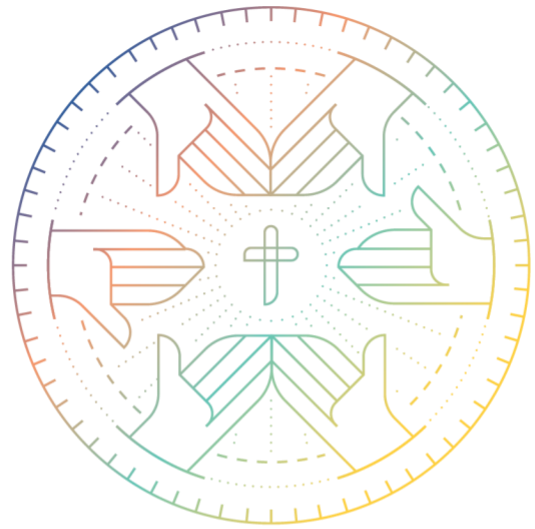
Study and ponder the meaning and application of noble character. How could you take your next right step in becoming a woman or man of noble character?

Couples, have a heartfelt conversation this week about real and felt needs within your marriage relationship. Seek a clearer idea of how your spouse views your marriage.

Practice empathetic listening and genuine curiosity in your conversations today or this week.

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PRAYER

Our Savior and Lord Jesus, help us to apply these truths to our lives and relationships. May we prioritize understanding, cultivate respect and devotion, check our egos, and seek mutuality. Guide us in our journey of love, kindness, and friendship, that we may reflect Your grace and truth in all we do. Bless each person here and their relationships, filling them with Your peace and presence. In Jesus' name, Amen.