

Harvest Bible Chapel
Small Group Questions
September 27, 2009

Green Grass 3 – Believe and Receive a Magnificent Marriage

Discuss the following statements.

- *“The success of your marriage has more to do with what you believe about God than what you believe about your spouse or your marriage.”* How does a wrong view of God (bad theology) affect your marriage?
- *“Marriage is about learning how to respond to a sinful human being in a holy way. It’s also about letting someone else’s sin reveal our own.”* How does God use marriage to shape us into his image? How does God use the weakness of your mate as a mirror to show you your own sin?
- *“The more difficult my spouse proves to be, the more opportunity I’d have to grow.”* How does God want to grow you through the difficulties in your marriage?

Give personal examples from your marriage or someone else’s that validate the following statements.

- *Marriage assaults our independence.*
- *Marriage forces us to crucify our flesh.*
- *Marriage requires us to crush our pride.*
- *Marriage demands our tireless service to another.*
- *Marriage requires our perpetual forgiveness.*
- *Marriage calls us to a relentless pursuit of oneness.*

Read Matthew 19:1-11. Why did the disciples react to Jesus’ strong statement about the permanence of marriage? Why would they think it would be better not to marry than to enter into a permanent marriage covenant? Do you react like the disciples regarding the permanence of marriage? How has our culture influenced you negatively about God’s standard for marriage? Why did Jesus say that not everyone can receive this high standard? How do you receive it? Have you received it? What is the proof?

Read 1Cor. 7:7-8, 32-34. Should everyone get married? What are some godly reasons to remain single? What advantages do singles have? For singles, companionship is essential outside of marriage? How much companionship do you show toward singles? Does that need to change? If so how? With whom?

Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12. What are the advantages of companionship?

Read Genesis 2:18-25. How much has a lack of “leaving” affected your marriage?

What does “cleaving” (holding fast) look like for you this week in your marriage?

What does “weaving” (becoming one flesh) look like for you this week in your marriage? Take time to list your differences as a couple. How does God use differences to develop oneness in marriage?

Do you carry any shame from marriage mistakes? The gospel is all about removing shame and guilt. How does forgiveness make us again “naked and not ashamed?”