

# Marriage: Wives, Respect Your Husbands

## Marriage: Wives, Respect Your Husbands

### SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

---

Based on the sermon by Pastor Mirek Hufton

---

#### 1. SERMON RECAP

Pastor Mirek shared that marriage is God's first institution and that when it functions well, families, churches, and communities are strengthened. He taught that while husbands are called to love their wives with the unconditional, self-sacrificing love of Christ, wives carry an equally important and specific assignment: to show genuine respect and honor to their husbands. He challenged the group to understand that love and respect are not opposites but two sides of the same coin, and that walking them out faithfully requires real faith and a willingness to grow.

---

#### 2. KEY SCRIPTURE

##### Ephesians 5:33 (NKJV)

"Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband."

---

#### 3. ICE BREAKER

What is one thing you have learned about relationships the hard way that you wish someone had told you before you had to figure it out yourself?

---

#### 4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Pastor Mirek pointed out that God specifically told wives to respect their husbands rather than simply commanding them to love, suggesting that women have a natural bent toward nurturing and love. Do you agree with that observation? What does it say about how God designed men and women differently, and how does understanding those differences change the way we approach conflict in a marriage?
2. The Amplified version of 1 Peter 3:2 that Pastor Mirek read unpacked the word reverence to include respecting, deferring to, honoring, esteeming, appreciating, admiring, praising, being devoted to, and deeply enjoying a husband. Which of those words feels most natural to you, and which feels most like a stretch?

What makes the difficult ones hard to practice?

3. Pastor Mirek described a negative cycle where a wife who feels unloved begins to show disrespect, which causes her husband to withdraw further, which causes her to feel even less loved. He said the cycle has to be broken by someone choosing to act in faith rather than waiting for the other person to change first. How easy or difficult is it to take that first step when you feel hurt? What would it take to believe that stepping out in faith could actually turn things around?

4. Galatians 3:28 reminds us that in Christ there is neither male nor female, that all are equal before God. Pastor Mirek was careful to say that the different roles God assigns in marriage do not mean inequality, pointing to the relationship within the Trinity as an example of equal persons in a divine order. How does understanding that distinction help you embrace the idea of roles without feeling diminished by them?

5. Pastor Mirek spoke honestly about how a wife honors or dishonors her husband not just through her words but through body language, tone, eye rolls, and the way she speaks about him to her mother, her friends, or her children. In what everyday settings is it easiest to let those small dishonouring habits slip through unnoticed? Why do you think the small things carry so much weight?

6. He reminded the group that John 13:34 gives us only one law in the New Testament, the law of love, and that every question in marriage ultimately comes back to asking what love would do in this situation. How does framing marriage decisions around that single question simplify things that often feel complicated? Where do you find it hardest to let love be the deciding factor?

---

## 5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE

Identify one specific person in your life, whether a spouse, a family member, or a close friend, whom you have been taking for granted or failing to honor well. This week, choose one concrete act of expressed respect or gratitude toward that person. Write it down before you leave today so it does not stay vague. It might be a handwritten note, a direct verbal affirmation spoken face to face, or a deliberate choice to speak well of that person to someone else. Come back next week ready to share what happened.

---

## 6. PRAYER POINTS

- Pray that God would soften hearts in marriages where hurt and distance have built up over time, and that husbands and wives would find the courage to break negative cycles by choosing love and respect before they feel like it.
  - Pray for the fruit of the Spirit, particularly patience and kindness, to grow in every home represented in the group, recognizing that love is a fruit that can always increase and that none of us has arrived.
  - Pray for anyone in the group who is carrying the pain of a broken or difficult marriage, that they would experience God's grace covering the gaps, and that they would not feel like second-class citizens in the church or before God.
-

## **7. MEMORY VERSE**

### **Ephesians 5:33 (NKJV)**

"Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband."