

The High Call of Marriage

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A SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE BASED ON THE TEACHING BY PASTOR MIREK HUFTON

1. SERMON RECAP

Pastor Mirek Hufton opened his teaching on marriage by grounding it firmly in the character of God as Father, reminding the group that because God is relational by nature, relationships are the very heartbeat of life itself. He walked through Ephesians 5 and Genesis 2 to show that marriage is not a human invention but a divine covenant designed by God to reflect the relationship between Christ and the church. He challenged husbands and wives alike to pursue genuine transformation through humility, repentance, forgiveness, and Spirit-led service, insisting that a strong marriage does not happen by accident but by deliberate, grace-fueled growth.

2. KEY SCRIPTURE

Genesis 2:18

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."

3. ICE BREAKER

What is one small habit or routine in your home that has unexpectedly made a big difference in keeping peace or bringing joy to your household?

4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Pastor Mirek described marriage as a covenant rather than merely a commitment, and said that God himself watches what we covenant before him. How does viewing marriage as a covenant before God, rather than a contract between two people, change the way a couple might approach conflict or the temptation to give up?
2. He pointed out that God declared it was "not good" for Adam to be alone even when Adam had everything going for him, including moral purity, authority over creation, and full provision. What does it tell us about God's design that he built the need for companionship into human beings from the very beginning, and how does that speak to the longing many people feel regardless of their relationship status?

3. Pastor Mirek was honest about the fact that marriage exposes character weaknesses that are easy to hide in other relationships. He said the crucible of daily life together brings out everything that needs to change in us. In what ways have close relationships, whether marriage, family, or deep friendship, revealed something in your own character that God has used for growth? How did you respond to what was revealed?

4. He spoke about the law of the spirit of life versus the law of sin and death from Romans 8, applying it directly to marriage by saying that selfishness is at the core of relational breakdown while Spirit-led living brings life and peace. Where do you see the pull of selfishness most strongly in close relationships, and what does it practically look like to choose the law of the spirit in a moment of tension?

5. Pastor Mirek shared that one of the most powerful tools in his own marriage was the practice of humility, including regularly asking his wife how he was doing and being willing to hear a hard answer. He said that men in particular need to lead in repentance and set the temperature of the home. How does the culture around us push back against that kind of humble, servant leadership, and what would it look like to intentionally resist that pressure in everyday life?

6. He closed by connecting the health of individual marriages to the strength of families, churches, communities, and even nations, arguing that godly homes produce godly seed that multiplies influence across generations. Do you believe that vision? What gives you hope for marriage and family when the cultural pressures against them feel overwhelming?

5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE

This week, choose one specific and concrete act of service toward your spouse, a family member, or a close friend that costs you something, whether time, comfort, or personal preference. Before you do it, pause and pray, asking the Holy Spirit to help you do it with a genuinely glad heart rather than a grudging one. If you are not currently married, apply this same challenge to the most significant close relationship in your life. Come prepared next week to share what you did and what you noticed in yourself and in the other person as a result.

6. PRAYER POINTS

- Pray that every married couple in the group would experience a fresh work of the Holy Spirit in their home, softening hearts, renewing communication, and replacing patterns of selfishness with genuine servant love.
 - Pray for those in the group who have experienced the pain of a broken marriage or the loss of a spouse, asking God to bring deep healing, freedom from condemnation, and a renewed sense of identity and purpose in Christ.
 - Pray that the families represented in this small group would raise up the next generation in such a way that their children and grandchildren would carry a living testimony of God's love into every sphere of influence they enter.
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7. MEMORY VERSE

1 Peter 5:6

"Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time."