

FIGHT FOR IT

Fight For it: Marriage

This is the opportunity for your group will discover what God might be saying to you out of the weekend experience, and how you can respond through a group discussion.

Marriage is hard. This week we're exploring the reality that love is not a feeling but a choice and looking at the daily choice to love one another just as Christ has loved us. While much of what we discussed was in the context of marriage, these principles can be applied to all relationships.

Questions for discussion:

Break the ice: Curt shared this weekend that he keeps a note on his phone as a tool to learn about Julie. Are there any funny (or genius) ways you have used notes that you would be willing to share with the group?

1. What was your biggest take-away from the weekend service?
2. How would you define the purpose of marriage? What are some of the influences and experiences that shaped your definition?
3. In what ways might your history, fears, or insecurities be obstacles to assuming the best about people (could be your spouse/significant other, or family members, friends, co-workers, etc)? What would it take to overcome those obstacles?

We're going to read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. Notice all the 'choices' that Paul describes: Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

4. Which of these descriptors or 'choices' is most difficult for you right now in your marriage or most significant relationship[s]?
5. What's one way you have been impacted by receiving love that lines up with one or more of these descriptors?

This past weekend, Curt gave 3 practical ways to "fight for our marriages" –

- Hand over the rope – relinquish keeping score and go 100% in on helping the other win
- Hydrate their heart – become a student of your spouse, future spouse, or other and show love through the way you honor and serve
- Pray – pray for them that God would bless them and change you

The logo features the word "FIGHT" in large, bold, white capital letters on a dark grey rectangular background. Below it, the words "FOR IT" are written in white capital letters on a red, ribbon-like banner that overlaps the bottom of the grey box. The entire graphic is set against a light grey, textured background.

6. Which of these is most difficult for you right now? Why, and what is God leading you to work on in this realm?

Read Psalm 139:23-24

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

7. Have there been times in your life when God has revealed things to you that were hard, but essential, for you to hear? How did responding to God's voice bring freedom to you?

Read John 13:34-35

A new commandment I give you, "Love one another as I have loved you, so you must love one another"

To experience the power in this love we must be rooted in God's love. Our ability to love others comes from the overflow of our experience as God's beloved children.

8. How has knowing God's deep love and affection for you impacted the way you love your spouse, significant other, family members, friend?

Wrap-up

This group is here to help. Everyone share one way this group can support, encourage, or pray for you this week? Anyone can begin.

Group Host Close in prayer.