



PRE
Married
LIFE

FACILITATOR NOTES



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Name, where from, what do you do, do you go to Victory World Church, some other church, etc...
2. How did you meet?
3. How did you hear about PreMarried Life? What expectations do you have for this class? Specifically, why did you sign up for PreMarried Life?
4. What are some of your favorite traits in your significant other?
5. What are some of the strengths in your relationship?
6. Do/did your parents have a healthy marriage?
7. What do you think constitutes a successful marriage?
8. From your perspective, what is the purpose of marriage?

NEARLYWED GAME QUESTIONS

MEN ANSWER

While at Starbucks she steps away leaving you responsible to order for her. What will you order?

WOMEN ANSWER

He spares no expense when it comes to _____, and he is a cheapskate when it comes to _____.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

GENESIS 2:24-25

For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and woman were both naked and not ashamed.

MATTHEW 19:3-6

Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?” “Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female’, and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’? So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.”

EPHESIANS 5:31-32

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

MALACHI 2:15

“God, not you, made marriage. His Spirit inhabits even the smallest details of marriage. And what does he want from marriage? Children of God, that’s what. So guard the spirit of marriage within you. Don’t cheat on your spouse.”

JOHN 15:5

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me, and I in him, he will bear much fruit. But apart from me you can do nothing.”

1 PETER 3:7

Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

CONFLICT

1. Why do you think communication and conflict are a struggle for couples?
2. Do you view conflict as something positive or negative? Why?
3. How does your family of origin communicate and deal with conflict? How does it differ from your significant other's family?
4. What topics cause the most conflict in your relationship?
5. Conflict is natural in marriage. How are you preparing yourself to not be shocked when you face conflict?
6. How do you plan to deal with conflict when it arises?

COMMUNICATION

1. How can you become a better listener in your relationship?
2. How do/can you allow the weight of what your significant other is saying to impact your heart?
3. What is something that is challenging for you to talk about with your significant other?
4. What is one thing you learned tonight that you

need to apply? What changes do you need to make with regard to how you communicate and deal with conflict?

5. Practice the Speaker-Listener technique. Start off by sharing one positive trait about your significant other.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

JAMES 1:19

Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger...

PROVERBS 18:2

A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion.

JAMES 4:1-3

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

EPHESIANS 4:25-32

Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil. Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only

such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

MATTHEW 18:15-17

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FACILITATORS *Separate by gender before answering the following questions.*

ROLE OF THE HUSBAND

1. What challenged you the most from the speaker's talk on the role of the husband?
2. What surprised you as he described what a godly husband looks like and does?
3. Where do you anticipate having some challenges in leading your wife if you get married?
4. What's the next practical step you can take on this side of marriage in becoming a more godly boyfriend/fiancé (so that you can be a more godly husband down the road)?

FACILITATORS *Be ready to share some of your own challenges in leading your wife, and some success stories on how you lead her (and, if applicable, your children) well.*

ROLE OF THE WIFE

1. What challenged you the most from the speaker's talk on the role of the wife?
2. What surprised you as she described what a godly wife looks like and does?
3. Where do you anticipate having some challenges

embracing this role if you get married?

4. What's the next practical step you can take on this side of marriage in becoming a more godly girlfriend/fiancée (so that you can be a more godly wife down the road)?

FACILITATORS *Be ready to share some of your own challenges in being a godly wife, and some success stories on how you do well in your role of loving, supporting, and respecting your husband.*

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

GALATIANS 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

EPHESIANS 5:22-33

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the

church, because we are members of his body.

“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

GENESIS 2:18

Then the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”

1 PETER 3:7

Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

MARK 10:42-45

And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FACILITATORS *Have your group members answer the next three questions with the first thing that comes to mind.*

SPEED ROUND

- In my home growing up money was...
- When it comes to money, I'd like to improve my...
- What you may not know about money and me is...

GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Are you a spender or a saver? Does your partner agree with your assessment?
2. Have you and your partner discussed any financial habits that make you nervous? If so, how do you think you will address them?
3. Who should be in charge of the budget if you get married? What responsibilities should the other partner have in regards to money? How do the concepts of oneness and spiritual leadership apply to the budget and finances/stewardship?
4. How did the way you were raised affect your view of saving, tithing, debt, etc...?
5. Have you created a budget? Have you been faithful to stick by the budget?
6. Would you consider yourself faithful in managing the resources God has given you stewardship over?

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

1 TIMOTHY 6:6-8

But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.

PROVERBS 22:7

The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender.

PROVERBS 30:8-9

Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, lest I be full and deny you and say, "Who is the Lord?" or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God.

PROVERBS 21:5

The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.

1 CHRONICLES 29:11-12

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not

reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

LUKE 21:1-4

Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, and he saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. And he said, “Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.”

PROVERBS 15:22

Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

DIFFERENCES

1. In what ways are you and your partner the same/different?
2. How can you value his/her differences?
3. What conflict has come up in your relationship because of your differences? In what ways could this affect your future marriage?
4. Have you identified your top love language? In what ways do you receive love?
 - Words of Affirmation
 - Physical Touch
 - Receiving Gifts
 - Quality Time
 - Acts of Service

EXPECTATIONS

FACILITATORS *Please be transparent about a time when you had to deal with expectations.*

1. How well have you communicated your expectations to your significant other?
2. What are your expectations about opposite sex relationships/friendships? Have you discussed with your significant other?
3. How do you and your significant other handle things when your expectations are unmet?

IN-LAWS & FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

1. What are some of your favorite traits of your significant other's family?
2. What are your concerns about your significant other's family?
3. What are some ways you can grow in your relationship with your potential future in-laws?

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

AMOS 3:3

Do two walk together, unless they have agreed to meet?

PROVERBS 13:12

Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

GENESIS 2:24

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

GALATIANS 1:10

For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

JAMES 4:6

“But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, ‘God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’”

1 CORINTHIANS 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to

man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

MATTHEW 18:20

“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

ROMANS 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FACILITATORS *Some of your couples/individuals may believe that sex outside of marriage is okay, and that it is something that ‘keeps them together.’ Be ready to discuss, with scripture, that sex is intended for marriage, and not outside of marriage.*

Stress the importance of dealing with hurts or struggles. This includes: pornography, abuse, past sexual experiences, masturbation, etc...

As leaders, be ready to share how this has been either a strong point or challenge in your marriage. For most of us, at some point or another, it is both of the above. Share as much as you are comfortable sharing.

Separate by gender before answering the following questions.

WOMEN ANSWER

1. What did you learn from the section, ‘What men wish their wives knew about sex’?

MEN ANSWER

1. What did you learn from the section, ‘What women wish their husbands knew about sex’?

GROUP QUESTIONS

2. How have your past sexual experiences affected your view of physical intimacy?

3. What issues related to sexuality cause some anxiety for you?
4. What was your most significant take away from this session?
5. Why is sexual intimacy a big deal to God?
6. In your future marriage, what are your biggest concerns when it comes to sexual intimacy?

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

GENESIS 1:27-28

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

GENESIS 1:31

And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

1 CORINTHIANS 10:31

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-20

“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be

dominated by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food”—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

EPHESIANS 5:3

But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.

SONG OF SOLOMON 5:1

I came to my garden, my sister, my bride, I gathered my myrrh with my spice, I ate my honeycomb with my honey, I drank my wine with my milk. Eat, friends, drink, and be drunk with love!

