

GROUPS

Week of 2-21-21

The following group discussion topics are from the third message in the series: "It's Complicated" at Stockbridge Community Church and was presented by Pastor Jeff Daws.

LEADERS: It's a great idea to read out the overview below to set the stage for the next few weeks of group discussions. **TODAY'S QUESTIONS ARE DESIGNED FOR BOTH MARRIED COUPLES AND SINGLES.**

OVERVIEW: Let's be honest, we are all at different places with our relationships. Some are married (long or short term), some may be divorced (newly or long term) and some of us may be single. The idea is to learn through this semester from one another's experiences. And remember, it's always better to be real than to pretend that we are always right.

ICEBREAKER (If your group needs it) What is your favorite movie??

#1 It's no secret that dating for today is different than in previous generations. **If you're married, how has dating changed since your time on the dating scene? If you're single, how has it changed from generations past?**

#2 Our culture tells singles who are trying to live a godly life that they are boring and not having fun. But there is a way to be single and secure living a life of faith. Let's read our key verse and then answer the follow-up question.

KEY VERSE:

"...But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." Matthew 6:33

FOLLOW UP: If we are seeking the kingdom of God first, before all else then dating should be a breeze right? Think again! Just because we follow Jesus doesn't guarantee that everything will be easy. **Why do you think dating and staying true to your faith is so difficult in today's world?**

#3 For singles, determining who you are going to be is the first step in being “single and secure.” It’s also vital for those who are married as well. If you haven’t determined the person you are going to be how can you expect the person you are with to know? **If you’re single, share a few examples (aspects) of the person you have determined to be. If you’re married, share a few aspects of the person your spouse is. (examples: good husband/wife, hard worker, faithful Christian, etc.)**

#4 The next step in finding security in your role either as a spouse or a single is to define your Godly values. Think of this as guardrails that keep you in line, practical boundaries that save you from a spiritual failure, etc. **What parameters have you established to keep to your faith as a single out in the world, or a spouse when your spouse is not around?**

#5 Another way we find security in being married or single is by discovering our wholeness and security in Jesus. There really is no better way to feel secure than to think on the eternal security you have in knowing Christ. Psalm 23:1 teaches us that the Lord is our shepherd, therefore we lack nothing. Everything we could ever need (not always what we want, but always what we need) is found in the relationship with Him. **What would you say is the biggest difference for you, before and after becoming a follower of Christ?**

Group Challenge The final way in having that security in who we are - married or not - is by dispersing our time out in ways that serve others. There are two parts of our Group Challenge this week. First, if you have not started Growth Track and would like to do so in person, you can begin on March 7th in the 1030 service, or can begin online by signing up with your group leader today. The second part of the challenge to serve others is by signing up (also through your leader today) to be a part of SCC’s monthly Serve Saturday on March 6th alongside the Henry County Dream Center.

Closing Prayer/Requests (Feel free to ask the group “Would anyone like to close us in prayer?”.)

Announcements/Next Steps: Baptism is happening on 2/28 and if you are ready to take your next step, you can sign up with your leader for that today as well.