



SBSG – Sermon Series – Strengthening Your Marriage: A Two-Way Street

The Purpose of a Sermon Based Small Group (to be read at the beginning of each gathering)

The purpose of our small group is to actively pursue Christ through relationships, as we worship, serve, and belong together.

READ ALOUD BY ALL (allow this prayer to shape your time together)

Dear God, help me in this dialogue to be humble & suspend judgment. I recognize that we are all created in your image. Give me courage to stay curious about each other by asking questions. Thank you, God, for this opportunity to meet together and in so doing grow closer to you. AMEN

Series: Strengthening Your Marriage

Opening question: Why is mutual submission so difficult?

Sermon Synopsis: Once we have understood our strengths and began to appreciate the strengths of our partners, we have a window into the ways they naturally think, feel, and behave. When we think about relating to them in the best way for them instead of ourselves, then our relationships begins to strengthen as we bend our strengths towards theirs.

Bible Reading

Reading the Bible is about reading for practice and spiritual formation – spiritual formation, in which the reader seeks to be formed by the Spirit of God.

Passage(s) from the sermon: Ephesians 5: 21-33 (NRSV)

What questions do you have about the passage/sermon?

What do you feel God is saying to you through this passage?

Discipleship Point: submission is a two-way street

What is one way you can begin to submit to others this week?

Prayer

Share a one or two sentence prayer request with the Small Group for this next week. Remember these prayer requests are about your life not someone else's.

(Sample Prayer)

God, we thank you for your presence with us. We lift up these requests to you knowing that you care deeply about us...we pray for _____ and _____ and (fill in prayer requests) ... God we know that you have heard our request and we release all outcomes to you and your glory. It's in your Son's name Jesus that we pray...**AMEN.**