STUDY GUIDE

IN THE RING 05.20.2018

[start with prayer]

Missions Prayer Focus this week: Disaster Relief Ministry

[set up]

Watch the video of Ian and Larissa on the CVC blog together. https://cuyahogavalleychurchblog.wordpress.com/

What are the ways in which their marriage is different than yours?

In what ways is their marriage similar?

Why do you think Larissa moved forward with the wedding even though she knew Ian would be unable to do many things?

[digging deeper]

If you are totally honest with yourself (and your group), what have you believed or do you believe is the purpose for marriage?

Revisit Colossians 3:12-16 together.

- List the virtues that Christians are called to "put on."
- Do a word study/discussion of each word. How have you failed to respond in these ways to your spouse?
 - What is the solution to responding differently? (list them as a group)
 - Read John 15:5. Now, what is the solution to responding differently? (Were the two answers the same for your group?)

[living it out]

If we as Christians are going to show the world what God's love is like through our marriages, it will take a work of the Spirit. But the work of the Spirit is not passive on our part. We "walk in the Spirit" (Galatians 5:16) and keep in step with the Spirit (Galatians 5:25). What are some practical steps that you need to take to sink your roots deeper into Christ for the sake of your marriage?

Each person in the group, commit to an action step and follow up the next time you meet. (See the list of books and sermons at cycblog.org)

[end with prayer]

Pray as a whole group (or in smaller groups) over your action steps.