

Relate – Week 3

January 22, 2023

Relate

SERMON BASED STUDY GUIDE

To maximize the benefit of this study, it's best to complete in advance.

Note: As a LG Leader, read through the CVC “Essential Beliefs on Cultural Issues.” Pay close attention to the sections on Gender Identity, Marriage and Sexuality, Family Relationships, and Divorce and Remarriage. Be familiar with the scriptural support for these issues. We encourage you to send the link above to your LG in advance and ask them to read through the “Essential Beliefs on Culture Issues” before attending the LG session.

[set up]

Who do you know who is living an exemplary life as a single person? What has helped them bear the fruit of the Spirit as a single person?

What marriage do you admire? What has helped this couple honor the Lord in their marriage?

[digging deeper]

Read 1 Corinthians 7:6-17 in the ESV.

Reread 1 Corinthians 7:6-17 in another version.

Ask the group members – without looking at their Bibles – to rephrase the passage in their own words. (Ask one person in the group – with their Bible open – to remind the group what they may have forgotten or remembered incorrectly.)

What is the passage telling us about God?

What is this passage telling us about ourselves?

How does this passage inform, challenge, and correct, current cultural issues we are facing in North America?

Reread 1 Corinthians 7:17. Remember the Big Idea from the message: “Live the life the Lord assigns.”

Describe the challenges, hardships, and difficulties of living the life the Lord has assigned when it comes to...

... being single

... staying married

... being at married to a non-believer

(over)

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Describe the blessings, benefits, and joys of living the life the Lord has assigned when it comes to...

... being single

... staying married

... being at married to a non-believer

[living it out]

Who is a believer in your circle of influence who is struggling to live according to the principles in this passage? What is your responsibility to that person?

Who is an unbeliever in your circle of influence who is struggling to live according to the principles in this passage? What is your responsibility to that person?

What has God been saying to you about your own life based on this study?

Ask each person in the LifeGroup to create an “I will” statement in response to what God has said through this study. (The LifeGroup leader should write down the “I will” statements of each person in order to check up with everyone the next time the group meets.)

Pair up in your LifeGroup. Close your time praying for the believer and unbeliever mentioned by your prayer partner. Ask God to help your prayer partner to live out his/her “I will” statement.