

The Big Picture: Beholding Marriage from Beginning to End
Ephesians 5:31-32 (variety of texts)
Couples Project
October 17, 2017

Part I - *To be completed separately before the message. You can begin at your leisure, but time will be given at the beginning of the meeting to complete this first portion.*

1. When you come to these Married Couples meetings, what would you say your attitude is? Is it obligatory? ...expectant? ...hopeful? ...begrudging? Choose a word of your own if you'd like and then explain why that is.
2. What passages of Scripture have been particularly useful to you in your marriage? ...either together as a couple or for you individually? List a few here.
3. In what one or two ways do you believe your spouse would most appreciate you changing about yourself in your marriage? You don't have to agree with him/her to write it here. Just do your best to anticipate how they would answer this question.
4. What 2-3 goals would you say you have for your marriage? How do they differ from when you were first married? (If you can't think of any goals, consider writing that and then why you think that is.)

Part II - *To be completed separately after the message. Time will be given following the message to complete this second portion.*

1. What are two or three things you heard in the message that stand out to you as applicable to your marriage as it is currently?

2. Are there areas of your marriage where you have defaulted into coasting? ...or perhaps taking one another for granted? What are they and what do you think needs to be done to bring those areas into the will of God?

3. Toward the end of the message, Rob addressed three areas where our sin weakens our marriage: 1. Kindness, Forgiveness, Compassion; 2. Exclusive Faithfulness; 3. Purposeful Peace. Which of these areas is most in need of strengthening? What role do you personally play in that weakened area? What could you do together as a couple to pursue growth?

Part III - *To be completed together within one week after the meeting. Take time where you can talk in an uninterrupted and unhurried way to complete the third portion of this project. Feel free to use this worksheet however you wish. If you are hoping for a plan, consider the one below:*

1. Pray. Ask God for his help to keep your conversation fruitful and redemptive. If, at any point during the conversation you feel conflict brewing, stop and remember together that Christ means to be the center of the marriage and the conversation, not a conflict.
2. Take the time to share your answers from Question 1 in Part II. Realize that God may have spoken to each of you in different ways, seeking to address different things. Don't correct or critique. Simply inform and share God's activity during the message.
3. Review your answers to Question 3 from Part I. Ask your spouse if there's anything they'd add or change in your answer. Ask if there are any observations they have in how you respond to trials.
4. Review your answers to Question 3 from Part II. Ask your spouse if they have faith to believe this could be true and work. Talk through potential practical steps that may need to happen.
5. Pray. Ask God to strengthen you with the might of his power as he fills your marriage with his Spirit. Ask him to forgive you for your contribution to any challenges and thank him for bringing you together as a couple. Pray that God would provide all of the help you need