

# Week 1

## Preparing for a Marriage that Lasts



LifeGroup  
Discussion



### How to use This Guide:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add any optional scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

### Our Main Idea:

Popular culture tells us: “Find the right person and fall in love.” God tells us: “Become the right person and walk in love.”

### Key Questions:

- What are some examples of popular movies, music, television, magazines, etc. that sell Hollywood's prescription for lasting relationships?
- How do you go about finding real love? Where did you learn your approach?
- How would you describe the effects of the Hollywood formula on your own life and relationships?
- In your pursuit of a lasting relationship, have you been more focused on finding someone or on becoming someone? What has been your result?
- Read Ephesians 5:1-2 - Which is easier: To become an imitator of God or an imitator of a Hollywood role model? Explain.
- Read 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 - Why does our society struggle so much with this passage? What can we do to understand and live out God's instructions for our relationships?
- Read 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - Again, this is a passage that many in society and in the church struggle with.

### Next Steps:

- What's the first step you need to take to live out this change?
- Pick a book on relationships or marriage to read and study. Here are a few suggestions: Love, Sex, and Lasting Relationships by Chip Ingram, Real Marriage by Mark Driscoll, Love and Respect by Emerson Eggerichs, Five Love Languages by Gary Chapman, His Needs, Her Needs by Willard Harley
- Find a Video Bible Study on Relationships, Dating, or Marriage on Rightnow Media ([www.mycornerstone.org/rightnow](http://www.mycornerstone.org/rightnow))

### Experience

Your Relationship with God

God created love and sex. That makes Him the best source for advice on cultivating a lasting relationship. List two or three steps you could take this week to become an imitator of God.

### Equip

Your Relationship with Others

What's one idea from this message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention? Now, think about how you can share what you learned with others.

### Engage

Your Relationship with the World

Look for opportunities this week to reach out to people who may be hurting because of failed relationships. Share love, share hope, and share Christ with them.