

# Week 3 Tough & Tender Husbands



## LifeGroup Discussion Guide



### 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:

Husbands need to be both tough and tender. Tough enough to combat injustice and fight for their marriage, and tender enough to passionately love their wives. No matter what else a husband does or what happens in the marriage, he must love his wife as Christ loves the church

### Key Questions:

- Make a Top 10 List: “Top 10 Ways A Husband Can Love His Wife.” Focus on actual things the husband can give up (or ways he can give up himself) for his wife. Share with the group.
- How has Christ loved the church? How is it possible for a husband to love his wife in this way?
- What does it mean to be loved based on position and not based on performance? Do you have any unspoken, unrealistic expectations of your spouse?
- How are you serving your personal preferences rather than serving your spouse? How did Christ give Himself for the church?
- Are there areas in your marriage where you have “checked out” and given up? In what areas do you need to step up and provide leadership?
- Have you asked your spouse recently to share with you what makes them feel most honored and appreciated? What does it mean to live with your spouse in an understanding way?
- Most marriages have some baggage: the husband or wife has said or done something that has hurt or offended the other one. How can a marriage “move on” when the scars are still there?

### Next Steps:

- For husbands: Are you leading your family in the areas of church attendance and prayer?
- For wives: How can you encourage your husband to be both tough and tender?
- For singles: Read the Scripture passages on marriage (Ephesians 5, 1 Peter 3, Colossians 3) Do these passages challenge your views on marriage? Why or why not?
- 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

One of the best things you can do in marriage is pray together. When was the last time you prayed with your spouse? Or prayed for your spouse? Commit to reading the Bible and praying together in your marriage.

### Equip

Your Relationship with Others

Many conflicts in marriage are do to unmet expectations. However, many of those expectations are never verbalized. How do you resolve conflict and handle disagreement in a respectful way?

### Engage

Your Relationship with the World

Unfortunately, many marriages are struggling. We encourage you to share what you are learning in this series with your friends and family. Look for opportunities to encourage others in their marriage.