

# Love, Sex, & Marriage



## GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS | Ephesians 5:25; Philippians 2:5-11 - Language & Laughter

### ICE BREAKER/INTRODUCTION QUESTIONS

- ◆ Talk about a time in your marriage or in another family relationship when you shared an experience that generated a lot of laughter.

### DISCUSSION

1. What purpose do you think laughter might play in a marriage? How has laughter played a meaningful role in your own marriage or in the marriage of someone you know?
2. Gary Chapman, in his book *The Five Love Languages*, presents five ways people express and receive love from those closest to them—specifically their mates. These five languages are described as words of affirmation, quality time, receiving gifts, acts of service and physical touch. Based on these, which ones best communicates love to you? Which of these languages do you have the most difficulty expressing?
3. **Read [Ephesians 5:25](#)**. What is our model for expressing love in intimate relationships—primarily marriage? How did Jesus love the Church? What does this kind of love look like in a marriage relationship—how is love expressed and received?
4. **Read [Philippians 2:5-11](#)**. List how these verses describe Jesus' attitude toward His purpose and those He loves. Jesus is equal to God, but chose servanthood over His position in heaven in order to fulfill His purpose. What does this tell you about His attitude toward showing you love? What action did Jesus take to show you love? What does Jesus' example tell you about taking the initiative to show love to others?
5. How is showing love a choice? What attitude do you usually have when choosing to show love (not just when you feel like showing love)? What difference does your attitude have in your ability to communicate love to others—especially your spouse? What would being a servant to your spouse look like?
6. Being able to laugh at yourself can be a way of expressing humility and the attitude of a servant. Are you able to laugh at yourself? Talk about a time when laughing at yourself did or might have diffused an otherwise tense situation.
7. Jesus took on human likeness. He spoke our love language. What can you do to learn the love language of your spouse and others with whom you have close relationships? How are being humble and showing initiative part of this process?
8. Look back at the five love languages in question 2. Which love language do you believe would be most meaningful to your spouse or someone close to you? How could you choose to express love to that person in that “language” this week? If you need help with ideas, just ask your loved one.
9. Jesus' death on the Cross was a redemptive expression of God's love for us. How have you experienced Jesus' love in your life? What barriers have you come up against in receiving the love Jesus offers? What are you willing to do to accept the love Jesus has already shown you on the Cross? How are you willing to follow Jesus' example and show love to your spouse? To those closest to you? To initiate expressions of Christ-like love to someone God has put in your life?

### PRAYER

- ◆ Ask your group to pray that God would help you to speak love in ways others can understand and receive. If have not yet received the love of Christ into your own life and are ready to do that, tell your group and ask them to guide you in prayer to receive His love and the gift of salvation.