

MESSAGE REVIEW

Marriage is a God-ordained institution, designed to be a reflection of His nature and relationship with us. It's also the most vulnerable human relationship we'll have, and we need to see it as such. Marriage is harder than we think but better than we thought. No matter our relationship status, God's heart is that we become the person He intended us to be – full and complete in Christ.

WARM UP QUESTION

This week's message talked a lot about the myths we tend to buy into. Play "Two Truths and a Lie" with your group to get started. (Each person shares two truths and a lie about themselves and then the group guesses which is the lie.)

- 1** **Read Genesis 2:18-24 and Revelation 19:6-7.** What is the significance of the Bible beginning and ending with a marriage? What is the marriage happening in the Revelation verses? How does it hit you to hear our relationship with God compared to a marriage, with Jesus as the groom and the church as the bride?
- 2** **Read Song of Songs 2:2-5.** What words stand out to you about how the lovers describe each other in these verses? If you're married, describe how you viewed marriage in the dating and even early married stages. Has your perspective changed at all?
- 3** **Read Song of Songs 5:2-6.** What evidence of conflict between the lovers do you notice in these verses? Have you ever bought into the lie that marriage wouldn't be hard? Describe a time in your life when working through conflict or something really hard paid off. When has avoiding conflict not paid off?
- 4** **Read Song of Songs 5:16.** What seems to have happened to the conflict between the lovers? Have you ever believed the myth that romance doesn't have to do with friendship? How does focusing on the friendship in any relationship help to cultivate it? What are some tangible steps you can take to work on your friendships in the most important relationships you have?
- 5** The Bible says nothing about finding the right person, but God does care a lot about the person we are becoming. What tends to get you off track from having that kind of mindset? Have you ever looked to your spouse or another person to fill you? How can you instead begin to live from a place of being completely filled in Christ?

RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

Encourage group members to read Daily Bible Reading on the church app or have it delivered to their inbox daily. Subscribe at tpcc.org/dbr. Use your group chat to check in on thoughts about these throughout the week!

