



GRACE GROUP LEADER'S MESSAGE GUIDE

(Week of September 28th)

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE - MARRIED

LAST WEEK'S ACTION STEP

- Message someone that has impacted your spiritual walk.
- Message someone that you need to ask for spiritual help.

ICEBREAKER

What's the funniest or most awkward first date story you've ever heard or experienced?

BOTTOM LINE

It's not a contract, it's a covenant.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Matthew 19:3-6

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES

Hebrews 13:4	Proverbs 18:22
1 Corinthians 13	1 Peter 3:7
2 Corinthians 6:14	Ephesians 5

RESOURCES

Read this [article](#) from Desiring God titled "The Story of Marriage in Seven Verses."

Listen to this [podcast](#) titled "NEVER Say These 6 Things in a Fight (If You Want to Stay Married)" from Josh Howerton.

GRACE EVENTS

<https://www.gracefellowship.cc/events/>

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you from this weekend's message?

2. What's the most surprising lesson you've learned from *someone else's* marriage or relationship?
3. What's one common misconception about marriage that you think people should rethink?
4. Read **Matthew 19:3-6**. What does it mean when Jesus says, "what God has joined together, let no one separate"?
5. How does the idea of "two becoming one flesh" challenge common cultural views of marriage as just a contract?
6. What's the difference between a contract and a covenant?
7. Why is it important that God is central in the covenant? What happens to a marriage when He isn't at the center?
8. If married, how can you intentionally put God first in your daily interactions with your spouse?
9. If you aren't married, how does understanding God's design for marriage shape the way you approach singleness and/or dating?
10. What's one area where your desires have taken priority over God's design in your relationships? What steps can you take to hand that area over to Him?
11. How does seeing marriage through the lens of the gospel give hope during difficult marriage seasons?

ACTION STEP

Burn the contract. Get rid of the "if/then" attitudes and behaviors of your marriage.