

Tee-ing Up The Meaning Of Marriage
Our Best Year Yet Part 1

Highs and lows from past week

Group Questions:

1. For couples in the group, how long have you been together? How did you meet?
2. For single people in the group, why is this series for you too?
3. What happens when a relationship has no destination or direction?
4. Read Genesis 2:18-25. Can your group explain the golf T.E.E. acronym?
5. After reviewing each concept in T.E.E. which one is most relevant for you now? Why?
6. Have you signed up for the marriage conference? Why or why not?

Close in prayer

A relationship with no **DESTINATION** will be a relationship with no **DIRECTION**.

Marriages don't grow simply because both spouses age. Growth is intentional, demanding and utterly surprising. It requires space and time. It will not happen without the focus of a gardener who tends, nurtures, weeds, waters, fertilizers and then repeats the same process endlessly. Growth happens because it is desired. Dan Allender

You don't have to be married to **LEARN** from marriage.

Q: Why is marriage still a thing?

A: Marriage most **MIRRORS** what we were made for reflecting our desire for true and lasting intimacy.

Matthew 19:4-6 "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' **5** and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? **6** So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Desire: To wish, long, crave, want

Where do desires come from?

Option #1: EVOLVED From

Option #2: CREATED For

Genesis 2:18-23 *The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a **helper** suitable for him." 19 Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. 20 So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. 21 So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. 22 Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. 23 The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."*

EZER: One who supplies needed **STRENGTH**.

KENEGDO: One who is **LIKE** and **UNLIKE**.

Genesis 2:24-25 *That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. 25 Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.*

God's plan (DIRECTION) and goal (DESTINATION) for Marriage: A delighted oneness that **REVEALS** God.

Trinity: Marriage reveals God's **UNITY** and diversity.

Ethics: Marriage reveals God's **CHARACTER**.

Eschatology: Marriage is a preview of ultimate **JOY**.

Revelation 19:6-9 *Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. 7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. 8 Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God's holy people.) 9 Then the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!" And he added, "These are the true words of God.*

Marriage tells us **WHO** we are, **HOW** we are, and **WHAT** we will be.

Malachi 2:16 *"I hate divorce," says the God of Israel. God-of-the-Angel-Armies says, "I hate the violent dismembering of the 'one flesh' of marriage." So watch yourselves. Don't let your guard down. Don't cheat. MSG*

BOTTOM LINE: It's time to register for the Marriage Weekend, Feb. 7th-8th, at smccutah.org.

