



**Households
of Faith**

Marriage – Discovery Bible Study

God designed marriage as a gift something that is joyful, meaningful, and life-giving. Here is a list of passages to strengthen your relationship with your spouse.

Week 1: Genesis 2:4-25 (God's Design)

Week 2: Psalm 127 (The Builder)

Week 3: Matthew 7:24-27 (The Foundation)

Week 4: Ruth 2:1-23 (Mutual Respect)

Week 5: John 13:1-17 (Mutual Service)

Week 6: Song of Songs 6:13-8:4 (Mutual Love)

Week 7: Acts 18-28 (Priscilla and Aquila Mutual Ministry)

Week 8: Genesis 3:1-24 (Pulling Apart)

Week 9: Ephesians 5:22-6:9 (Pulling Together)

Week 10: Matthew 1:18-25 (Power of Commitment)

Week 11: Genesis 21:1-21 (Dealing with Conflict)

Week 12: Job 1:1-22 (When Life Falls Apart)

1. Invite God's Spirit to speak through the Bible reading and discussion time.
2. Read the assigned text aloud, giving each person an opportunity to read a verse. Use different translations (if available). Then have someone read the entire passage a second time, allowing the group to listen carefully to the narrative.
3. What does it say? Ask someone to attempt to say what the text says in their own words. They are not to "interpret" the text, just attempt to tell the group what the text says. The group can help fill in the gaps and help build a context. Don't skip this step or allow people to jump right into interpreting it.
4. What does it mean? Use a "talking circle" that gives each person an opportunity to share their own thoughts and insights about the text's meaning. The facilitator may prompt each participant but individuals can pass if they want to. Others can interact with what is being shared but avoid arguments. Don't allow anyone to dominate the discussion (including yourself as facilitator). Make sure everyone has a chance to share.
5. How does it apply to me or us? Discuss practical applications to what you are hearing. With whom should you share these insights? How can you apply these things to your life? State your intentions to the group.
6. Close your meeting by praying for one another as they seek to obey God. Thank the Holy Spirit for his presence and guidance.