

Session 6:

Men of Faithfulness - Pursuing Intimacy with Our Spouse

Video

Watch the video and take notes of anything that stands out to you...

Key Passage – "Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ³⁰ because we are members of his body. ³¹ "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. ³³ However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband." (Ephesians 5:25-33)

Four questions to ask your wife:

- 1. Do you feel loved by me?
- 2. Do you feel pursued by me?
- 3. Do you feel nourished by me?
- 4. Do you feel cherished by me?

Discussion

Break into small groups of 3 to 6 men and discuss the following questions:

- 1. What are three things you love and appreciate about your wife?
- 2. Which of the following best describes where your marriage is at right now? Please explain.
 - Neglecting an unhealthy marriage
 - Maintaining a mediocre marriage
 - Pursuing an excellent marriage

- 3. It's never too late to become the kind of husband your wife desires. After listening to the women in the video, what are some practical ways you could show your wife that you cherish her?
- 4. What is your idea of a dream date with your wife, and when is the next possible time you could ask her out? (*Take out your calendar and look.*)
- 5. What are some specific ways you can pray for your wife and your marriage?

Prayer

In your small group, read the following Scripture out loud... take a minute to reflect on it... and then respond to God in prayer.

Philippians 2:3-4 – "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or empty pride, but in humility consider others more important than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others."

- 1. (*Upward*) **Praise:** What does this passage teach me about God?
- 2. (Inward) Confession: What does this passage teach me about myself?
- 3. (Outward) **Petition:** How does this passage lead me to pray for others?

Brotherhood

Pair up with one other man and share your prayer requests. Exchange contact information. Then commit to praying for each other and talking to each other at least once during the week for encouragement and support.