

LIVING WATER

Living Water - Week 3

Message Discussion Questions

Introduction:

This week Matt is continuing a new series called 'Living Water'. What happens when you are very thirsty? Have you ever been so thirsty that you would give anything for a drink of water? Water = life, but after you quench your thirst you will be thirsty again later. In this series we will be looking at the familiar stories & how we can find what we need to really provide for what our souls are thirsty for.

In Part 3 Matt leads us to look at marriage & how Living Water can impact how we can best work out relationships. What marriage is & what marriage isn't. How do relationships work best, and what if you said Jesus I need for you to fill the void in my life & to sit on the throne of my relationship?

Questions:

1. Why would it be true that 'It's better to be single & wish you were married than to be married & wish you were single'? How does that relate to your life & experience?
2. Why is God's definition of marriage so important? In marriage, why is the promise to show grace the promise that supersedes all others? Is it true that grace isn't permission to make mistakes, and that your unfaithfulness won't affect my faithfulness? Matthew 19:3-6
3. What did Matt say is the Biblical definition of love? When you say 'I love you' what is it that you are signing up for? Ephesians 5:25

4. What does it mean that 'Your marriage is to be a reflection of how Jesus loves you & how Jesus loves you needs to be reflected in your marriage'? How would living like that change things in most marriages? Ephesians 5:28-33
5. Why is it that marriage is under attack? Does it make sense that sexuality is the #1 target for Satan to distort into something it was never meant to be? Does that explain a lot of what we see in the world today? Ephesians 6:12
6. Rethinking marriage vows:
 - For better or worse - what does that mean? In your relationship with Jesus is there anything that would be so bad that Jesus would look at you & say 'I don't love you anymore'?
 - For richer or poorer - isn't this the biggest stressor in marriage? How is it that financial issues are often a problem whether you have to little or you have more than enough?
 - In sickness & in health - how do you deal with the fact that on a physical level in your marriage, things are going to change? How is this a promise that 'no matter what happens to you physically, mentally, emotionally, sexually, no matter what, I'll stay by your side'?
7. Based on the Biblical definition of love & marriage, do you need to repent? Do you need to ask God & your spouse for forgiveness because you haven't been perfectly faithful to your promises? Would you agree that marriage is really, really hard with Jesus? Matthew 19:10-11

Key Takeaway: *Marriage is really, really hard with Jesus. He has to be at the center of the relationship, you've got to let Him sit on the throne of your marriage.*

Summary:

- It's better to be single & wish you were married than to be married & wish you were single.
- Grace isn't permission to make mistakes, your unfaithfulness won't affect my faithfulness
- Love means to provide & protect
- Your marriage is to be a reflection of how Jesus loves you & how Jesus loves you needs to be reflected in your marriage
- Why is marriage under attack?
- For better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness & in health
- Repent - Ask God for forgiveness and your spouse for forgiveness because we haven't been faithful to your promises, Marriage is really, really hard - with Jesus