

Going deeper

Genesis 2:24 is the go-to verse in the New Testament when discussing sex and marriage (e.g. Matthew 19:5; 1 Cor. 6:16). In this passage in Paul's letter to the Ephesians the verse is used not to argue against divorce or sexual immorality, but for husband's loving their wives!

Read Ephesians 5:25-33

6. How is Christ a model for husbands?
7. What might this kind of love look like in a marriage?
8. What point is Paul making about the marriage relationship from the Genesis 2:24 quote?
9. What does it mean to love someone as you love your own body?
10. How does all this help us understand Christ's relationship with the church?

Now do the applying it to our lives questions...



**Week Beginning
Sunday 8th March 2020**

Growth Team News

We are in the period of Lent. Why not consider attending a Growth Team as something to take up for Lent?

This week we continue with the Sermon on the Mount and examples Jesus gives of the greater righteousness that we are called to strive for as his followers. The key theme this week is 'faithfulness.'

Mon.	8:00pm	<i>Edith Road</i>	07710 638614
Wed.	10:15am	<i>Goodwin Road</i>	
		<i>Contact Vanessa on</i>	01843 592857
	2:30pm	<i>Dane Park Road</i>	
			01843 583305
Thu.	9:30am	<i>The Vicarage</i>	
		<i>Contact: Willow</i>	01843 607157
		<i>or Audrey</i>	01843 592160
	7:30pm	<i>Kings Avenue</i>	01843 592562



**Growing in Christ
to glorify God
and enjoy Him forever.**

Flourishing Faithfulness

Matthew 5:27-37 (page 969)

Space to take notes on the talk

✓ **Understanding Sex** - _____

❖ **Lust** - _____

❖ **Divorce** - _____

❖ **Promises** - _____

Getting to know each other

❖ Can you think of a broken promise that has particularly upset you?

Responding to the talk

1. What issues do you hope we speak about in today's session, in the light of what was said in the sermon?
2. Understanding Sex - Read Matthew 19:3-9
 - a. Why does Jesus go back to the Creation story to answer the question about divorce?
 - b. What is the key thing about 'sex' / 'becoming one flesh' that Jesus wants us to understand? (cf. 1 Cor. 6:16)
 - c. How does this shape our view about when sex is good and when it is bad? (cf. 1 Cor. 6:15,18; 7:3)
3. Lust - Read Matthew 5:27-30
 - a. How does Jesus's interpretation of the law against adultery 'surpass' a basic interpretation? (cf. 5:8,20)
 - b. What might we need to 'cut off' to avoid lust?
4. Divorce - Read Matthew 5:31-32
 - a. Look again at 19:3-9. How were the Pharisees interpreting Moses's Law? Why did Jesus say Moses allowed divorce?
 - b. Why does Jesus say that divorce without good reason is wrong?
5. Promises – Read Matthew 5:33-37
 - a. Why do people sometimes 'swear by something' when they make a promise?
 - b. Why does Jesus say that anything beyond, 'yes' or 'no' is 'from the evil one'?

You may like to do the 'Going Deeper' questions over the page.

Applying it to our lives

10. A child in your care has promised to go to a friend's party but wants to do something else instead. What would you say to the child?
11. A married couple are struggling to get along and are considering divorce. How might you advise them?