

WEEK OF  
JANUARY 29,  
2011

# JOURNEY GROUP QUESTIONS



GROW.

**OUR MISSION:** *Leading people on a life-changing journey to follow Jesus Christ. [Matthew 11:28-30]*

**JOURNEY** OUR WEEKLY JOURNEY TAKES FOUR STEPS IN FOLLOWING JESUS CHRIST:

**Love** God. [Matthew 22:37] through WORSHIP **Grow** in God. [2 john 1:6] through GROUPS

**Serve** God. [1 peter 4:10] through TEAMS **Share** God. [acts 1:8] through OUTREACH

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**TITLE: I DO, WE DID, NOW WHAT? – HE DID, SHE DID**

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## Intro

The format for journey group questions is designed to help keep your group healthy and balanced around our four weekly steps of following Jesus – love, grow, serve, and share.

**Leader Note:** If you have any questions or feedback on these questions email [groups@westridge.com](mailto:groups@westridge.com).

**Bottom Line:** We are commanded to be faithful in our marriage, to avoid divorce, and to be content in our calling.

## Love

1. News to share with your group.
  - Men's Prayer Breakfast Thursday, January 19 @ 6:30 am at West Ridge in the Multi-purpose theater.
  - The week of February 7-14 you can to <http://www.couplecheckup.com/wrc.html> and take the couple checkup for a reduced rate of \$19.95. The normal cost is \$29.95.
  - On Feb. 10 we will offer childcare at the church for \$15 so you and your spouse can have a date night - "I Do, We Did, Now Date!" Register at <http://www.westridge.com/events/details/the-great-date-experience-feb-10>.
2. You may want to use an icebreaker if you have new people in your group. Go to <http://rodneyhunt.wordpress.com/group-leader-resources-2/icebreakers/> for ideas on icebreakers.
3. Is anyone facing a significant decision or have something going on in their life that we can pray about?
4. Begin your group time in prayer.

## Grow

❖ **Attend our class on Christian Doctrine called Foundations at either 8 am or 4 pm on Sundays.**

1. How can a husband show his wife that she is important to him? How can a wife show her husband that he is important to her?

2. What are some boundaries that husbands and wives should put in place to protect their marriage?
3. **Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-5 and Genesis 2:24.** (ESV Study Bible Notes: One flesh means one unit, a union of man and woman, consummated in sexual intercourse. God designed marriage as the place for the expression of human sexuality. Sex within marriage has both relational and spiritual benefits. It also has the practical benefit of reducing the temptation to engage in sexual sin. Abstinence from sexual relations in marriage should be limited to short periods of time and only by mutual consent of the husband and wife.)

- Why do you think sex is so important to the marriage?
- How does it help reduce the temptation to engage in sexual sin?
- What are the only times that a husband or wife should deprive the other of sex?
- How can a lack of sexual intimacy affect the marriage?
- How does sex help to bring greater intimacy to the marriage relationship?

4. **Read 1 Corinthians 7:6-16.**

(ESV Study Bible Notes: Paul urges believers to obey the command of **the Lord** (Matt. 5:32; 19:9; Mark 10:11–12; Luke 16:18) that the wife should not **separate from** a believing husband and that the husband should not **divorce** (“send away,” a term commonly used for divorce) a believing wife. Roman law permitted either a husband or a wife to initiate a divorce with no stated cause required. Paul knows the oral tradition of Jesus’ sayings on divorce that were later written down in the Gospels, but he is not aware that Jesus ever spoke specifically to a situation in which one spouse becomes a Christian and the other remains unconverted. He carefully distinguishes, therefore, between the written words of Jesus as recorded in the Gospels and Paul’s own understanding of how Jesus’ teaching would apply to this new situation. Paul views his admonition here as authoritative and inspired, not merely as human wisdom. Is the believing partner defiled by being married to and having sexual relations with an unbeliever? Should they divorce? Clearly the believing partner is not defiled, for Paul says that if the believing partner has any say in the matter, they should not divorce.)

- What instruction does Paul give to singles? In what circumstances does he encourage them to marry?
- What instructions does Paul give to a person in a marriage whose spouse is an unbeliever?
- What advice would you give a person who has a spouse that may be a believer but just isn’t interested in church or spiritual things?
- What instruction is given to a person if their unbelieving spouse leaves or separates from them?
- Is there anyone in your group in one of these situations that you could spend extra time to pray and encourage?

5. Conclude your group time in prayer. Ask “How can we pray for you?” in regards to this topic.

## Serve

❖ Visit <http://www.westridge.com/volunteer/> to find out more about our volunteer opportunities.

## Share

❖ Sign up for a mission trip at <http://www.westridge.com/missions/>.

## Meditate and Memorize

**Genesis 2:24** – “Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”