

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT - LESSON 8

Honor My Spouse

Romans 12:10 (NLT)

“Love each other with genuine affection and take delight in honoring each other.”

Main Idea: To honor someone means to place high value and importance on that person by viewing him or her as a priceless gift. Encouraging your spouse in who they are and valuing their contribution shows them honor. Consider how you speak about your spouse to others and how you treat your spouse. All of us have positive and negative traits or behaviors. Our focus will determine whether our spouse is and feels honored by us. We see what we're looking for. Look for ways to honor the gift of your spouse. God calls us to serve and attend to our spouse, as Jesus served.

Optional Resources for Leading the Lesson



Idea for Illustrating the Main Idea:

Use the **attached Gestalt image**. Show it to the group to make the point that we see what we are looking for (do you see the rabbit or duck or both?). We see what we are looking for in our spouse. Both negative and positive qualities are in them. What will you choose to focus on?



Additional Scriptures for you to read/reference with the group:

Romans 14:19, 1 Peter 4:8-9, Ephesians 4:29, 1 Corinthians 10:24, Proverbs 17:22



Gospel Implications: (connect the lesson to their relationship with God)

Matthew 6:26 – You are more valuable to God than many sparrows.

Isaiah 43:4 - You are precious in My eyes, and honored, and I love you.

John 3:16 – God loved us and gave His son for us.

God placed an undeserved high value on your life.

1. Name two positive traits or behaviors of your spouse.
2. Describe specifically how you are blessed and/or a better person because of one of your spouse's traits or behaviors.
3. What things in your life compete for the place of high honor reserved for your spouse?
4. Why is it difficult for you to give honor as a gift to your spouse?

THROUGH THE WEEK

Honor My Spouse

Read the Scripture below for each day and answer the following questions. Every passage may not clearly give an answer to each question but think through these questions and see how God leads you. You may want to use a journal for this daily time in God's word.

1. What do I learn about God?
2. What do I learn about myself?
3. What do I learn about loving my spouse/others?

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Psalm 86:11-13	James 3:13-18	Romans 15:1-7	1 Corinthians 10:23-24	James 5:13-16



Challenge for the Week:

Practice speaking highly about your spouse to others. Be creative and tell someone (i.e., a co-worker, waitress, your children, your small group) a positive attribute about your spouse.



Additional Resources:

Article - <https://www.reengage.org/blog/10-questions-to-be-a-better-spouse>
Book - **The Power of a Praying Husband/Wife** by Stormie O'Martian

What do you see?



