Life Group Guide: Faithfulness in Relationships

Opening Prayer

Key Takeaways:

- 1. God desires faithfulness in our relationships, especially in marriage.
- 2. Our faithfulness in any relationship reflects our faithfulness to God.
- 3. Marriage is a covenant before God, not just a personal commitment.
- 4. Being faithful requires vigilance and intentional effort.
- 5. God's grace is available for those who have failed in faithfulness.

Discussion Questions:



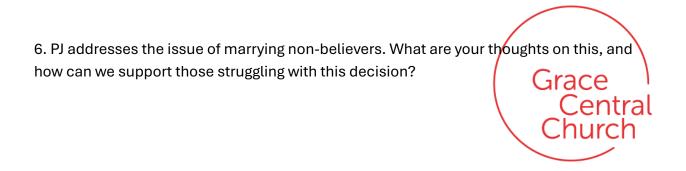
1. What stood out to you most from the sermon? Why?

2. In the sermon, PJ mentions that "your happiness is not the most important thing in the universe." How does this challenge our cultural views on relationships?

3. How can we practically "be on our guard" against unfaithfulness in our relationships?

4. Discuss the challenges of maintaining faithfulness in a world that often prioritizes personal happiness over commitment.

5. How does our faithfulness (or lack thereof) in relationships impact our witness as Christians?



7. How can we, as a church community, better support marriages and promote faithfulness?

8. Reflect on the statement: "Marriage is not about me." How does this perspective change the way we approach relationships?

Practical Applications:

1. If married: Commit to praying daily for your spouse and your marriage this week.

If single: Reflect on and write down your standards for a future relationship that honors God.

2. Identify any areas in your life where you might be compromising faithfulness (e.g., emotional attachments, pornography). Make a plan to address these issues.

Grace Central Church 3. Reach out to a couple in the church whose marriage you admire. Ask if you can meet with them to learn from their experience.

4. If you're struggling with faithfulness, confide in a trusted friend or mentor and ask for accountability.

5. Write a letter (you don't have to send it) to God, expressing your commitment to faithfulness in your relationships and asking for His strength.

Closing Prayer:

Thank God for His faithfulness to us and ask for His help in being faithful in our relationships.

5-day Bible reading plan and devotional guide:



Day 1: God's Enduring Love

Reading: Malachi 1:1-5

Devotional: As we begin this journey through Malachi, we're reminded of God's unwavering love for His people. Despite their unfaithfulness, God declares, "I have loved you." Reflect on how God has demonstrated His love in your life, even in times when you may have felt unworthy or distant. How can you respond to this love today? Consider writing a prayer of gratitude, acknowledging God's faithfulness in your life.

Day 2: Worship from the Heart

Reading: Malachi 1:6-14

Devotional: God desires sincere, wholehearted worship. Today's passage challenges us to examine our attitudes in worship. Are we giving God our best, or merely going through the motions? Take time to reflect on your approach to worship, both in church and in your daily life. Ask the Holy Spirit to renew your passion for God and to help you offer worship that truly honors Him.

Day 3: Covenant Faithfulness

Reading: Malachi 2:10-16



Devotional: Today's reading emphasizes the importance of faithfulness in our relationships, especially in marriage. God views our commitments as sacred covenants. Whether you're

married, single, or in a relationship, consider how you can cultivate faithfulness in your life. How can you honor God through your relationships? Pray for strength to remain faithful and for wisdom to navigate relationships in a way that pleases God.

Day 4: The Refiner's Fire

Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

Devotional: God promises to purify His people like a refiner purifies silver. This process, while challenging, leads to spiritual growth and renewal. Reflect on areas in your life where God might be working to refine you. How can you embrace this process, trusting in God's loving purpose? Ask God for the courage to face areas of needed growth and for His grace to sustain you through times of testing.

Day 5: Hope and Restoration

Reading: Malachi 4:1-6

Devotional: Malachi concludes with a message of hope and the promise of restoration. Even in times of difficulty or spiritual dryness, God assures us of His coming and the healing He brings. How does this promise of future hope impact your present circumstances? Meditate on God's faithfulness throughout history and in your own life. Pray for renewed hope and for the strength to live in light of God's promises, sharing His love with others around you.