

## This Is Us: Part 2

### Small Group Questions: The Marriage Blueprint

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#### Read

Genesis 2:23 –25

#### Reflect

In Genesis 2, God creates Eve from the flesh of Adam rather than from the earth. They are one flesh. Marriage is a covenant that requires that two become one, and complement and help each other. In the Trinity, each defers perfectly to the others. How does God use marriage to show the Trinity relationship? Do you view marriage as a powerful and transcendent institution? Why or why not?

Pastor Darrin and Amie Patrick help us pursue the oneness of marriage through three things:

1. Leave
  - a. Marriage is important.
    - i. Is your relationship with your spouse, the priority relationship in your life? Explain.
    - ii. How have past generations of your family shaped your understanding of marriage?
    - iii. Right now what is your marriage showing about God?
    - iv. How hard is it to obey the command to “leave” your father and mother? Why?
    - v. Have you allowed yourself to form a new identity with your spouse? Explain.
2. Cleave
  - a. Marriage is permanent.
    - i. Do you view marriage as a covenant? What do your vows mean to you?
    - ii. How do you need to fill in the blank? Despite \_\_\_\_\_, I’m not leaving.

#### Oneness Obstacles

- b. Unfair expectations.
    - i. What expectations have you put on your spouse or significant other?
    - ii. How realistic are your expectations in your current circumstances?
    - iii. Is the expectation burdensome? How might you be asking/demanding something that exceeds the role any human can/should play?
  - c. Efficiency.
    - i. How is Jesus extravagant with his time? How can we emulate him?
    - ii. How important is it for you to feel productive? Are you more focused on checking off boxes or focusing on your most important end goals?
  - d. Lack of self-awareness.
    - i. Would you say you understand how you’re wired? Are you willing to ask: what preoccupies me? What am I feeling? What am I avoiding? How am I responding to people, and why?
3. Become one flesh.
    - a. Marriage is to be intimate.
      - i. How can you empower your spouse?
      - ii. Is there something coming between you and your spouse?
    - b. How have challenges strengthened your marriage?
    - c. Have you confided in someone about marriage issues? What’s the “next thing” you need to do?

**Respond:** Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?