



**SMALL GROUP LEADERS: - Remember the C's of Small group health:**

**CONTENT** - *biblical, intentional, and conversational*

**CONSISTENCY** - *regular meetings and interactions with one another*

**CARE** - *sharing life's ups and downs with grace, love and encouragement*

**CELEBRATION** - *celebrating God's grace to us and having fun together*

**COMMISSION** - *participating in what God is doing now during our lifetime on earth*

**CHARACTER** - *as a leader - growing in my example for my group*

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**Ice Breaker:**

- What is your favorite movie about family and/or marriage? Why is it your favorite?
- What sitcom about family life do you/did you most enjoy? Why?

**Into the Word:**

Read Ephesians 5:22 -- 6:4

*Leader Suggestion: Assign each member of your group to read a portion of this passage.*

1) How does this passage show that family is to serve God's purposes?

2) How does knowing God's purpose for family make it easier to accept your responsibility and the associated sacrifices, in the family?

*Leader Help: For example, when we understand how the family illustrates the gospel, how does that make it easier to be a godly husband, godly wife, and godly child?*

3) What happens in a family when members begin to pursue their own purposes through the family instead of God's purpose for the family?

**Apply the Word:**

4) What part of the message is still "ringing in your ears" or "rumbling in your heart"?

5) How might you be making family, parenting, marriage or dating into an idol? Why is it easy to do this?

6) How can you make your current family situation serve more of God's purpose?

7) In the conclusion, Matt asked us to think about the "story that will be told" about our family dynamic. Describe what comes to mind and then what changes you need to make to write a more God-aligned story.

*From the message: There are 4 story-writing tools: approval, time, words, and forgiveness. Which one do you need to correct? or leverage for a God-glorying story?*

**Prayer Time:**

- Have each person ask for one change that needs to happen in their family life and for God's help/power to move on that area for His Glory.