



FIGHT FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

WEEK 2 DISCUSSION GUIDE

OVERVIEW

This week in our new series, *Fight For*, we are going back to basics and looking at how to **Fight For Your Marriage**.

DISCUSSION

If the fairy tale of your marriage has taken an unexpected turn, maybe you've experienced a **Fairy Tale Buster** or two. Below are **Four Fairy Tale Busters** where real life comes in and takes some of the steam out of your marriage.

<u>Difficult Adjustments</u>	<u>Inability to Resolve Conflict</u>	<u>Performance-driven Mindsets</u>	<u>Extramarital Affairs:</u> Emotional Affair Love Affair Career Affair Materialism Affair Activity Affair
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- Were you able to recognize any of the **Four Fairy Tale Busters** in your marriage?
- Why does this **Fairy Tale Buster(s)** distance us from God's original, biblical plan for marriage?

Three Aspects of Marriage Partnership

1. **Partners in life.** We are to be best friends and teammates in life! **Genesis 2:18** says: **And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to Him."**

What God is talking about is the concept of **relationship, intimacy, and oneness**. Helper, or “help mate” in the Hebrew is powerful—it means to help, support, gird, and surround. It also describes the man’s inadequacy without his bride, not her inferiority.

- In a marriage relationship, both share and reflect the image of God. Man and woman are different but completely complementary, which means to combine in such a way as to enhance the qualities of each other. How do you and your spouse enhance the qualities of one another?

2. **Partners in love.** We learn in **Genesis 2:22-23** how God presented Eve to Adam as a priceless gift: **Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh: She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”** Adam’s love for Eve was to be based upon God’s sovereign choice—not her performance.

- Why do we tend to hold back our love and affection from our spouse when things don’t go our way?

3. **Partners in light.** There was **openness** and **transparency** between Adam and Eve. **Genesis 2:25** says: **And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.** Nothing was hidden, and there was nothing to be ashamed of.

- Adam and Eve enjoyed openness and transparency because they were in right relationship with God and one another. What do you personally need to do to be in right relationship with God and your spouse?

LIFE CHALLENGE

Prior to the fall and sin entering the world, the marriage relationship was filled with purity, a clean conscience, and emotional vulnerability. As we move through this series, we are going to continue learning how to fight for our marriage and relationships and how to get healing when we’ve been hurt. God’s grace is able to restore any broken marriage, but we’re going to have to do it God’s way. Will you commit to **Fight For Your Marriage** and **follow God’s plan**?

PRAYER REQUESTS & CLOSE IN PRAYER