

Church At the Movies
Group Study, Week One

When a Man Loves a Woman

CATCHING UP

Welcome any new members. Go around the group and answer the question, *how has your week been going?* And *what did you take away from the last lesson, and how has it made a difference in your life this week?*

DIVING IN

This week's video-based study is a little different in that it's led by a guest – Mark Driscoll, Pastor of Mars Hill Church in Seattle, WA. It's taken from a message Mark preached about the role of the husband as lover and leader in the home. It's important to note that all of Scripture is useful for all of God's people. In other words, even people who aren't presently married still need to hear the heart of God and understand the wisdom of God for the role of a man in a marriage.

Read Ephesians 5:22-33. Then watch the teaching video.

TRUTH FOR HUSBANDS IN A MARRIAGE

- 1. You are the head of the house.**
- 2. We are not the highest authority.**
- 3. You are to love your wife, not just your marriage.**
- 4. Your most important human friendship is with your wife.**
- 5. Love your wife, not what you hope she will become.**
- 6. Love your wife, whatever comes your way.**
- 7. You must be tough and tender.**
- 8. You are responsible for the welfare of your family.**
- 9. She is your garden, and you are the gardener.**

Talking It Over

1. Why is Pastor Mark's message potentially controversial? Why does it grab our attention? Are there things you agree or disagree with?

2. If Jesus' love for His Church is the model for a husband's love for his wife, is there any room for abusive behavior? Discuss two or three of the nine implications Mark described. Which one(s) jump out at you? What do you struggle to live out?
3. If you were mediating a discussion between two people in the church family who were disagreeing (and found neither to be particularly right or wrong in the matter), how would you coach/counsel them to find unity with each other? What steps would you prescribe for them?

SERVING TOGETHER

Talk about how your group might be able to serve together, within the church or within the community once or twice during this study.

STAYING ON MISSION

It's very important for every group to remember our big mission of reaching people who are far from God and bringing them closer to knowing Jesus. **Who do you know that you could invite to the group?**

PRAISE AND PRAYER

What prayer requests are there within the group? What is there to praise God and be thankful for? Are there any stories of how God has been at work in someone's life? One person can lead in prayer or multiple people can lead, but no one should feel pressured to do so.