



# Home Teams

DISCUSSION GUIDE

**SOME  
ASSEMBLY  
REQUIRED**

April 7 & 8

# The Master Plan

WEEK 1 • MATTHEW 19:1-10

## OPENING QUESTIONS

1. Since this series is entitled *Marriage: Some Assembly Required*, share an experience in which building or assembling something turned out to be different than you expected—easier or perhaps more confusing/harder?
2. Was there anything in this weekend's message that you strongly agreed with, disagreed with, or confused you?

## IN THE WORD

1. [Matthew 19:3-9](#) reminds us that God intended that a husband and wife remain together though life. In [verse 8](#) Jesus reveals one cause of marriage breakdown. In what way(s) does a hardened heart contribute to this breakdown?
2. Although they were addressing different issues, [Malachi 2:13-16](#) and [1 Corinthians 7:10-11](#) both reinforce God's intent for the permanence of marriage. What are good habits we can build that will help us accomplish this intent?
3. As we see so often in the scriptures, God's intent in marriage was for "two to become one." Why do you think God created sex between a man and woman to create oneness or a "glue" between them? Does the scripture show us any other relationship in which he intended this to happen?
4. How should two become one without destroying the uniqueness and personal character of the other? Are there areas in which you should, or should not, allow each other space to pursue different interests or activities?

## MAKING IT PERSONAL

1. Can you identify someone whose marriage has been a good model for you? Specifically, what has been helpful to you?
2. If you are married, what do you think has been the toughest test that you have faced with respect to staying married? Were you tempted to give up?
3. If you are single, have you witnessed an extreme challenge to the marriage of parents or a friend? Have you learned anything from these challenges?
4. Since the Bible is clear on God's design for marriage, how should we respond to the world around us that is, in many ways, challenging His intent?
5. If you are married, do any experiences come to mind that have been especially important in forming a strong bond between you? As you consider this question, remember to consider times of struggle as well as peaceful or enjoyable experiences.
6. If you are single, are you comfortable and content with the friendships and relationships you have, or is marriage something you still seek?

## CONTINUED LEARNING

Take time to look up accounts where people's hearts became hardened and consider: What were the reasons/causes of this hardening, and what were the results? Who did it affect?

- [Exodus chapters 7, 8, 9](#)
- [Mark 3:1-6](#)
- [Hebrews 3:7-14](#)
- [Mark 8:14-21](#)

# Notes & Prayers



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FOLLOWING JESUS • IN COMMUNITY • FOR OTHERS