



# Home Teams

DISCUSSION GUIDE

**SOME  
ASSEMBLY  
REQUIRED**

April 28 & 29

# Relationships

## WEEK 4

### OPENING QUESTIONS

1. How important is humor in your marriage and/or marriages you have observed? Can you think of good or bad examples?
2. Think about the subjects/ideas shared by the McElroys; what challenged you most?

### IN THE WORD

1. Read [1 Peter 1:13-16](#) and consider how a marriage centered around holiness should look different from other relationships and marriages. Be specific!
2. In [John 13:34-35](#) Jesus reminds us that one of the ways others will know that we are His followers (and that it is genuine) is by the way we love others. If this is applied to marriage, what should others see in the marriage of a believer and follower of Christ?
3. Christ tells us in [John 15:1-17](#) that we must abide in him or we won't be able to live a life of love that is productive for His kingdom. He also tells us that all the commands hang upon the command to love ([Matthew 22:37-40](#)).
  - What instructions of God can you think of that directly affect the success of marriage, and how are these driven by love?
  - If we follow Him in these ways, what is the impact on our marriages?

### MAKING IT PERSONAL

1. When you were newly married, did you have realistic expectations of your spouse? How has that changed? What caused this change?
2. Other than the Bible, consider some of the influences that shape our beliefs and expectations about marriage (media, blogs, pornography, office talk at work or classroom, books,

movies, etc.). Can you identify ways in which any of these have influenced you negatively or positively?

3. Many people have experienced a change in their marriages in which they moved from “being in love” to “love”; that is, a gradual replacement of romance with deeper contentment and commitment. Do you think that has happened in your case? Were there any significant events that contributed to this?
4. Among the married couples you have known, have any of them left you with a strong example of what a God-centered marriage looks like? Has this affected you in some way?
5. If others are to see your marriage as a positive example to them, what adjustments to your marriage would be most beneficial?
6. To love unconditionally is selfless, but wanting/needing to be loved is largely self-centered. Is this a concept in which you struggle?

### CONTINUED LEARNING

1. After reading [Isaiah 53:1-12](#), consider and discuss the description of Jesus’ loving actions and suffering on our behalf. Since God urges us to love the way Jesus loves us, look carefully through these verses and discuss:
  - In what way(s) was Jesus demonstrating love in this verse?
  - What would it look like if you and/or your spouse would, in some way, live like this for the other?

# Notes & Prayers



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FOLLOWING JESUS • IN COMMUNITY • FOR OTHERS