

WEEK 7: REJOICE IN YOUR SPOUSE NOT “VARIETY IS THE SPICE OF LIFE.”

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

PREPARE

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MAIN POINT

The head of sales of Ashley Madison, the website designed to connect cheating spouses, said their biggest competitor was the Bible. The world gives you clichés like “it is just sex,” and “you only live once,” and “variety is the spice of life,” encouraging people to find thrills and sex outside of their marriages. Proverbs 5:1-14 gives the warning about adultery and how it can ruin you and everything. But verses 15-20 give us the way to avoid adultery—by rejoicing in the spouse of your youth and allowing her/him to be the only cistern we drink from. In the Scripture, married couples are challenged to rejoice in each other fully, including physically. Singles are given a vision of sex within marriage that is better and better for them.

LEAN IN BREAK THE ICE

Do you remember the first time you had a “crush” as a kid? What was funny or memorable about it?

LOOK DOWN LOOK AT GOD'S WORD

Read Proverbs 5:15-20

15 Drink water from your own cistern,
water flowing from your own well.

16 Should your springs flow in the streets,
streams in the public squares?

17 They should be for you alone
and not for you to share with strangers.
18 Let your fountain be blessed,
and take pleasure in the wife of your youth.
19 A loving deer, a graceful doe—
let her breasts always satisfy you;
be lost in her love forever.
20 Why, my son, would you lose yourself
with a forbidden woman
or embrace a wayward woman?

In Proverbs 5:15-20, what imagery does Solomon use to describe marital faithfulness?

What does it mean to “rejoice in the wife of your youth” (v. 18), and how does this apply to long-term commitment?

In Proverbs 5:20, Solomon writes, “Why, my son, would you lose yourself with a forbidden woman or embrace a wayward woman?” What does that practically look like today?

LOOK OUT
IDENTIFY THE
RELEVANCE OF
GOD’S WORD IN
THE WORLD

How does the cultural message of “variety is the spice of life” undermine commitment in marriage?

What impact do dating apps, hookup culture, and pornography have on how people view sex and fidelity?

How can Christians model a countercultural view of sex and marriage in a world that treats sex casually?

For those who are married: what are some ways you can intentionally rejoice in your spouse this week? For those who are single: how does this passage shape your vision of marriage and sexuality?

Where are you tempted to see sex or romance as “just physical” instead of a God-given gift tied to covenant?

How does seeing God’s faithfulness to us encourage you to be faithful and joyful in your closest relationships?