

Built for Impact

From Fans to Followers

one purpose
one legacy

Married Life
Couples Ministry

This Guide Belongs To...

Phone

Series Content



Intro to the Parables:
Bible Project



Married Life
YouTube Channel

Ways to Engage:

At Grace Family Church, our mission is to help families find and follow Jesus. Through groups, we aim to achieve this by helping you find your people, grow your faith, and make a difference. We hope to equip and empower you to take a next step in whatever season you find yourself. Therefore, we have designed various ways to engage throughout the semester.

1

Step One: Show Up & “Talk About It”

Commit to showing up each week, ready to engage in group discussion.

2

Step Two: Verse of the Week

Commit to memorizing the weekly memory verse with your spouse or group.

3

Step Three: Take It Home & “Be About It”

Commit to the homework section, including practical Next Steps and Going Deeper reflection. This is intended to help you continue the conversation throughout the week and promote deeper connection with your spouse.

4

Step Four: SOAR and PRAY

Commit to the weekly corresponding Bible Reading Plan and pray together as a couple.

SOAR Instructions

You will find a corresponding *Bible Reading Plan* to go along with each week's message. We encourage you and your spouse to complete the plan individually. Using the blank SOAR entry provided, come together once a week to discuss your **favorite verse** from the four passages provided. We recommend using the NIV or ESV Bible translation.

You will find the SOAR method explained below:

S

Scripture

In this section, fill in **ONE VERSE** that grabbed your attention.

O

Observation

What does God seem to be revealing through the Scripture? Answer the who, what, where and why questions. If you would like to go deeper, look up any key words that may stand out to you (research the Hebrew or Greek meanings or look them up in the dictionary) and search any cross-referenced verses that may be listed in your Bible alongside the passage.

A

Application

How can you begin to apply this Scripture to your life today? How can you live differently in light of what God has spoken to you? Use statements or questions that begin with "I."

R

Reflection

Take a moment to be still and let God show you how to walk out this Scripture. Write a brief prayer asking God for wisdom and guidance.

Reading Plan

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Attitude: Love Lavishly

Good Samaritan

- ☐ 1 John 3:16-18
- ☐ Romans 12:9-13
- ☐ John 15:12-16
- ☐ Mark 10:42-45

Unmerciful Servant

- ☐ Luke 7:40-45
- ☐ Colossians 3:12-15
- ☐ Matthew 6:9-14
- ☐ Titus 3:1-5

Actions: Pursue Purposefully

Lost Sheep & Lost Coin

- ☐ 2 Peter 3:8-9
- ☐ John 10:4-16
- ☐ Luke 5:27-32
- ☐ 1 Timothy 1:13-16

The Prodigal Son

- ☐ James 5:19-20
- ☐ Romans 5:6-10
- ☐ Ezekiel 18:21-23
- ☐ Micah 7:18-20

Availability: Plant Persistently

The Sower

- ☐ James 5:7-9
- ☐ Psalm 126:4-6
- ☐ John 15:5-8
- ☐ 1 Corinthians 3:6-9

Mustard Seed, Yeast & Growing Seed

- ☐ Ezekiel 17:22-24
- ☐ 2 Corinthians 9:10-12
- ☐ 1 Corinthians 1:26-29
- ☐ Isaiah 55:9-11

Abilities: Steward Sacrificially

The Rich Fool & Widow's Gift

- ☐ Luke 12:32-34
- ☐ 1 Timothy 6:17-19
- ☐ Acts 4:32-35
- ☐ 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

The Talents

- ☐ Luke 16:10-12
- ☐ Romans 12:4-8
- ☐ 1 Peter 4:8-11
- ☐ 1 Peter 5:2-4

Ambitions: Seek Steadfastly

Watchful Servants

- ☐ 1 Peter 1:13-19
- ☐ Ephesians 6:10-18
- ☐ 1 Peter 5:6-9
- ☐ Hebrews 6:10-12

The Great Feast

- ☐ Romans 10:11-15
- ☐ Deuteronomy 10:17-20
- ☐ Hebrews 13:1-3
- ☐ Luke 14:12-14

Verse of the Week

1 John 3:18

Let us not love with
words or speech but with
actions and in truth.

Write verse once here:

Write it again:

Write it a third time:

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Luke 10:25-37

REPLAY (10 minutes)

Starting next week, your group will begin by having one person read their favorite SOAR verse from this week's Bible Reading Plan. Assign someone for next week.

Is Our Love Convenient or Costly?

Talk About It

(group discussion)

Attitude: Love Lavishly
Good Samaritan

1. What is one takeaway from the video?

2. Read: Philippians 2:3-8

How does this passage correlate with The Parable of the Good Samaritan?
How can these two passages encourage us to move towards one another and put love into action?

3. Turn to your spouse...

Tell your spouse one thing they did recently that made you feel seen or supported.

"We should never assume or expect our spouse to know our needs."

What is one need you can communicate more clearly?

When it comes to that need, which of the following do you need most from your spouse right now?

Hear

Help

Hold

4. Discuss with your group...

Jesus ends this parable by saying, "Go and do likewise."

Sometimes we think loving others means grand gestures, but the Samaritan simply stopped, cared, and stayed present.

What could it look like practically for your family to become known for the way you care for not only one another but also your neighbors in need?

Be About It (1:1@home)

Set aside intentional time to connect with your spouse this week. Review the *Next Steps* below and decide together which you will commit to. Next week, be ready to share your experience with your group.

Next Steps (walk it out)

- **Identify** one of your spouse's needs before reacting. Slow down long enough to notice what they may actually need emotionally, spiritually or physically.
- **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to help you listen to respond instead of react. Ask Him to give you wisdom and discernment on how to meet your spouse's need.
- **Choose** one intentional act of compassion this week: Check in with your spouse, sit with your child without distractions, bring a meal to a coworker or neighbor, send encouragement to someone who could use it or be interruptable in order to prioritize the person in front of you over the task at hand.

Going Deeper *(reflect below individually then discuss together)*

Acknowledge and write down any area of resentment, comparison or silent scorekeeping in your relationships. Pray: *“Jesus, soften my heart and help me love generously instead of conditionally or with expectation.”*

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

SOAR

Complete the reading plan below for this week. Here, you will reflect on **ONE VERSE** you liked most from the four passages. Journal here using the SOAR method, and come together with your spouse before next week to share with one another.

Weekly Passages: 1 John 3:16-18, Romans 12:9-13, John 15:12-16, Mark 10:42-45

S O A R

"Jesus, help us surrender our need to be right, comfortable or in control. Fill our marriage with compassion that notices, moves toward and serves one another well. Teach us to love not only when it's easy, but also when it costs something. Let Your presence guide the way we respond to, serve and care for one another. Amen."

PRAY: Pray with each other before coming to group next week. Follow the prompts below if needed, and use the "YIELD" section provided to bring unity as you commit to living out the week's topic.

P | PAUSE to thank God for who He is and for the blessings in your life.

R | REPENT Reflect on your mistakes, confess your shortcomings, and ask for forgiveness.

A | ASK Present your requests to God, including needs for yourself and intercession for others.

Y | YIELD Surrender your own will, inviting God's plans and presence to guide your days.

Verse of the Week

Ephesians 4:32

Be kind and
compassionate to one
another, forgiving each
other, just as in Christ
God forgave you.

Write verse once here:

Write it again:

Write it a third time:

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Matthew 18:21-35

REPLAY (10 minutes)

Have one person read their favorite SOAR verse from this week's Bible Reading Plan.

Assign who will start you off next week, reflecting on their experience with Next Steps, Going Deeper or SOAR.

Where Are We Keeping Score?

Talk About It

(group discussion)

Attitude: Love Lavishly
Unmerciful Servant

1. What is one takeaway from the video?

2. Read: Ephesians 4:29-32

How does this passage correlate with The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant, and how can these two passages encourage us to extend grace toward one another?

3. Turn to your spouse...

"A lot of times, it's not what you're saying but how you're saying it."

Let's communicate to connect over correct!

Which one do I do well? Which one would you like me to be more intentional with?

3A's of Feedback

- Attitude: "I am for you, not against you." (tone & body language)
- Audience: "Private, not public." (place & time)
- Alternatives: "Bring realistic solutions." (not criticism or comparison)

4. Discuss with your group...

Have you ever noticed yourself wanting grace for your intentions, but judging others based on their actions?

How can remembering the forgiveness you've received from Jesus reshape the way you respond to your spouse, kids, friends or neighbors? When has this empowered you recently to forgive?

Week. Review the *Next*
next week, be ready to

Set aside intentional time to connect with your spouse this week. Review the *Next Steps* below and decide together which you will commit to. Next week, be ready to share your experience with your group.

Next Steps (walk it out)

- **Identify** one area where you can affirm progress over perfection in your marriage.
- **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to give you humility, courage and compassion to pursue reconciliation this week the way Christ pursued you.
- **Choose** to send the text, make the call, initiate the conversation or serve someone you've struggled to love well.

Going Deeper *(reflect below individually then discuss together)*

Every person in our home and community is still growing. Healthy relationships make room for growth, not just performance. Acknowledge where your expectations may be leaving little room for patience or compassion. Pray: *“God, help me speak truth with love and become someone who builds others up instead of tearing them down.”*

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper appears to be a standard notebook page or a sheet of stationery.

SOAR

Complete the reading plan below for this week. Here, you will reflect on **ONE VERSE** you liked most from the four passages. Journal here using the SOAR method, and come together with your spouse before next week to share with one another.

Weekly Passages: Luke 7:40-45, Colossians 3:12-15, Matthew 6:9-14, Titus 3:1-5

S
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A
R

"Jesus, help us surrender our pride, our need to win and our desire to keep score. Remind us of the mercy You've freely given us so we can extend that same grace in our marriage. Fill our home with humility, forgiveness and love, and guide our words, reactions and attitudes every day. Amen."

PRAY: Pray with each other before coming to group next week. Follow the prompts below if needed, and use the "YIELD" section provided to bring unity as you commit to living out the week's topic.

P | PAUSE to thank God for who He is and for the blessings in your life.

R | REPENT Reflect on your mistakes, confess your shortcomings and ask for forgiveness.

A | ASK Present your requests to God, including needs for yourself and intercession for others.

Y | YIELD Surrender your own will, inviting God's plans and presence to guide your days.

Verse of the Week

1 Timothy 1:15

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.

Write verse once here:

Write it again:

Write it a third time:

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Luke 15:1-7 & Luke 15:8-10

REPLAY (10 minutes)

Reflect on the previous week. How did it go at home?

Assign who will start you off next week, reflecting on their experience with Next Steps, Going Deeper or SOAR.

Where Do We Need to Lean In?

Talk About It

(group discussion)

Actions: Pursue Purposefully
Lost Sheep & Lost Coin

1. What is one takeaway from the video?

2. Read: Galatians 6:1-5

How does this passage correlate with The Parable of the Lost Sheep and The Parable of the Lost Coin? How can these passages encourage us to be gentle toward one another and resist pride?

3. Turn to your spouse...

What is something I do that makes you feel seen or valued?

When you seem discouraged, distant, overwhelmed, what is one practical way I can "lean in" in order to increase connection?

4. Discuss with your group...

When conflict creates distance, do you tend to withdraw, defend or jump to fix?

What are some practical ways couples can fight for connection instead of settling for distance?

Be About It (1:1 @ home)

Set aside intentional time to connect with your spouse this week. Review the *Next Steps* below and decide together which you will commit to. Next week, be ready to share your experience with your group.

Next Steps (walk it out)

- **Identify** one person in your life that may be feeling unseen, unimportant or disconnected (child, friend or neighbor).
- **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to see the “one” He’s calling you to notice, not just the ones who are easiest to engage.
- **Choose** to initiate a conversation, ask a deeper question or create intentional space for connection without distraction.

Going Deeper *(reflect below individually then discuss together)*

Acknowledge where you may be focused more on what's wrong rather than what's being restored or growing. Pray: *"Holy Spirit, help me become someone who notices and celebrates healing, progress and reconciliation in my relationships."*

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SOAR

Complete the reading plan below for this week. Here, you will reflect on **ONE VERSE** you liked most from the four passages. Journal here using the SOAR method, and come together with your spouse before next week to share with one another.

Weekly Passages: 2 Peter 3:8-9, John 10:14-16, Luke 5:27-32, 1 Timothy 1:13-16

S O A R

"Jesus, we yield our agenda, our distractions and our self-focus today. Give us Your heart to notice where and when one of us feels lost, distant or growing callous toward Your promises or one another. Lead us to pursue, to listen and to love intentionally. Let Your presence guide our steps and words so we reflect Your care and joy in every relationship. Amen."

PRAY: Pray with each other before coming to group next week. Follow the prompts below if needed, and use the "YIELD" section provided to bring unity as you commit to living out the week's topic.

P | PAUSE to thank God for who He is and for the blessings in your life.

R | REPENT Reflect on your mistakes, confess your shortcomings and ask for forgiveness.

A | ASK Present your requests to God, including needs for yourself and intercession for others.

Y | YIELD Surrender your own will, inviting God's plans and presence to guide your days.

Verse of the Week

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Write verse once here:

Write it again:

Write it a third time:

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Luke 15:11-32

REPLAY (10 minutes)

Reflect on the previous week. How did it go at home?

Assign who will start you off next week, reflecting on their experience with Next Steps, Going Deeper or SOAR.

How Can We Pursue When It's Hard?

Talk About It

(group discussion)

Actions: Pursue Purposefully The Prodigal Son

1. What is one takeaway from the video?

2. Read: Ephesians 2:1-5

How does this passage correlate with The Parable of the Prodigal Son? How can these two passages encourage us to extend mercy toward one another with humility?

3. Turn to your spouse...

Can you identify one area where you are tempted to live from a "famine mindset," feeling stuck, drained or unresolved?

Ephesians 3:20 reminds us God can do more than we imagine. We are limited, but God is limitless.

Which one of the following do we as a couple need to commit to most in this current season?

- Celebrating small wins and progress instead of only focusing on what still feels broken
- Creating small consistent patterns of connection: morning coffee together, praying before bed, weekly check-ins, or intentional family dinners
- Choosing to speak hope and life over our marriage and family instead of rehashing or rehearsing disappointment, failure or worst-case scenarios

4. Discuss with your group...

Who else in your life is experiencing a relational, emotional or spiritual "famine"?

How might God be inviting you and your spouse to show up for them with more intention?

Be About It (1:1 @ home)

Set aside intentional time to connect with your spouse this week. Review the *Next Steps* below and decide together which you will commit to. Next week, be ready to share your experience with your group.

Next Steps (walk it out)

- **Identify** one area where you have grown emotionally distant, been slow to forgive or have been waiting for the other person to make the first move.
- **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to show you to where you've drifted toward convenience instead of connection, and where love needs to be rebuilt.
- **Choose** to commit to the response you agreed upon in question three during your group discussion.

Going Deeper *(reflect below individually then discuss together)*

When you are the one in need of forgiveness, do you tend to avoid, disengage or isolate? Is it hard for you to imagine God as a “running father”? Why or why not? Pray: *“Father, make my heart like Yours: quick to move toward others with grace, humility and love. Help me receive your love when I am in need of it most.”*

[illegible]

SOAR

Complete the reading plan below for this week. Here, you will reflect on **ONE VERSE** you liked most from the four passages. Journal here using the SOAR method, and come together with your spouse before next week to share with one another.

Weekly Passages: James 5:19-20, Romans 5: 6-10, Ezekiel 18:21-23, Micah 7:18-20

S

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R

"Father, we yield our pride, our timing and our desire to justify who is right or control outcomes. Teach us to run toward one another with grace and love. You run toward each of us. Guide our words, our tones and our actions in the midst of trials, weakness and failure so that our marriage reflects Your heart of restoration and joy. Amen."

PRAY: Pray with each other before coming to group next week. Follow the prompts below if needed, and use the "YIELD" section provided to bring unity as you commit to living out the week's topic.

P | PAUSE to thank God for who He is and for the blessings in your life.

R | REPENT Reflect on your mistakes, confess your shortcomings and ask for forgiveness.

A | ASK Present your requests to God, including needs for yourself and intercession for others.

Y | YIELD Surrender your own will, inviting God's plans and presence to guide your days.

Verse of the Week

John 15:5

I am the vine; you are the branches.
If you remain in me and I in you, you
will bear much fruit; apart from me
you can do nothing

Write verse once here:

Write it again:

Write it a third time:

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Mark 4:1-9, 13-20

REPLAY (10 minutes)

Reflect on the previous week. How did it go at home?

Assign who will start you off next week, reflecting on their experience with Next Steps, Going Deeper or SOAR.

Are We Open to Growth?

Talk About It

(group discussion)

Availability: Plant Persistently
The Sower

1. What is one takeaway from the video?

2. Read: Hebrews 12:1-3

How does this passage correlate with The Parable of the Sower? How can these two passages encourage us to cultivate perseverance in our marriage?

3. Turn to your spouse...

"The enemy isn't your spouse, but we do have a real enemy."

What is one area that feels like an enemy to our marriage right now?

(What is causing the most distraction, doubt, discouragement or division in this season?)

What code word or phrase can we use to remind each other to stay focused on Jesus, stay united and remember we're not fighting each other?

Write it here: _____

(Extra points for humor!)

4. Discuss with your group...

Share your code word or phrase with your group!

"With testing proves the depth of our roots."

Share of a hard season, and how God grew you both individually and as a couple through that season.

"Deep roots produce good fruit."

How have you been able to encourage others in a similar season?

house this week. Review the *Next*
commit to. Next week, be ready to

nally commit to in order to deepen
prayer, sabbath, attending church,

Next Steps (walk it out)

- Going Deeper *(reflect below individually then discuss together)*

[illegible]

SOAR

Complete the reading plan below for this week. Here, you will reflect on **ONE VERSE** you liked most from the four passages. Journal here using the SOAR method, and come together with your spouse before next week to share with one another.

Weekly Passages: James 5:7-9, Psalm 126:4-6, John 15:5-8, 1 Corinthians 3:6-9

S

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A

R

"Jesus, we yield our hearts, our habits and our home to You today. Break up anything in us that has become hardened, distracted or resistant to Your will and way. Let the fruit of our home overflow into the lives of others, bringing peace, encouragement, healing and hope to our neighbors, friends, children and community. Use our family to reflect You well and point people back to Your goodness. Amen."

PRAY: Pray with each other before coming to group next week. Follow the prompts below if needed, and use the "YIELD" section provided to bring unity as you commit to living out the week's topic.

P | PAUSE to thank God for who He is and for the blessings in your life.

R | REPENT Reflect on your mistakes, confess your shortcomings and ask for forgiveness.

A | ASK Present your requests to God, including needs for yourself and intercession for others.

Y | YIELD Surrender your own will, inviting God's plans and presence to guide your days.

Verse of the Week

Galatians 6:9

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Write verse once here:

Write it again:

Write it a third time:

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Matthew 13:31-33; Mark 4:26-29

REPLAY (10 minutes)

Reflect on the previous week. How did it go at home?

Assign who will start you off next week, reflecting on their experience with Next Steps, Going Deeper or SOAR.

Can Small Things Make a Big Impact?

Talk About It

(group discussion)

Availability: Plant Persistently
The Mustard Seed, Yeast
& Growing Seed

1. What is one takeaway from the video?

2. Read: Galatians 6:8-10

How does this passage correlate with The Parable of the Mustard Seed? How and how can these two passages encourage us to be mindful and diligent when it comes to cultivating our marriage?

3. Turn to your spouse...

When it comes to producing fruit — planting, perseverance and trusting God with the process — which of the following values does your spouse model well, and which do you want to cultivate more in your own life?

We Bring Our Best

(We strive to live on purpose, with the purpose of representing God and being the hands and feet of Jesus to one another and those around us. We seek to outserve one another rather than seek to be served. We encourage and cultivate the strengths and giftings in one another. We do hard things and have hard conversations with truth and grace for the purpose of unity.)

We Over Me

(We recognize that unity is bigger than the individual parts we play. We are committed to the pursuit of a godly generational legacy, despite our families of origin. We believe the best in one another, and strive to create an environment of safety in our home. We seek to honor and protect the unity of our marriage. We are quick to give grace, seek to honor and celebrate the good.)

We Are Still Growing

(We are each responsible for and committed to our own spiritual, mental, emotional and physical health. We are teachable and seek to give and receive feedback well. We lead with humility and recognize that none of us have arrived. We are authentic and real with those around us.)

4. Discuss with your group...

Where have you grown weary or intentionally stopped investing in a specific relationship — family member, child, coworker, friend or neighbor — because you haven't seen change? How can you take a step toward them again, while trusting God with the process?

Be About It (1:1 @home)

Set aside intentional time to connect with your spouse this week. Review the *Next Steps* below and decide together which you will commit to. Next week, be ready to share your experience with your group.

Next Steps (walk it out)

- **Identify** one practical thing you can do this week in order to cultivate growth in the area you identified in question three.
- **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to give you strength and wisdom in this area. *“God, help me not underestimate the power of consistency and faithfulness. Open my eyes and my heart to the opportunities and possibilities in my control.”*
- **Choose** to celebrate your spouse each time you see them cultivating the area of growth they identified in question three.

Going Deeper *(reflect below individually then discuss together)*

When you think about your marriage and family, how might you be unintentionally shaping your environment and relationships? What does that reveal about what you're really planting? Pray: *"Jesus, help my words and actions bring life, not tension. Show me which environment or relationship needs cultivating most right now."*

[illegible]

SOAR

Complete the reading plan below for this week. Here, you will reflect on **ONE VERSE** you liked most from the four passages. Journal here using the SOAR method, and come together with your spouse before next week to share with one another.

Weekly Passages: Ezekiel 17:22-24, 2 Corinthians 9:10-12, 1 Corinthians 1:26-29, Isaiah 55:9-11

S
O
A
R

"Lord, help us to stop trying to force outcomes in our marriage as we place the growth in Your hands. Help us to commit to showing up for one another, first, everyday; and to be faithful with the small things — our tone, our attention, our patience — trusting You to do what only You can do over time. Lead us to love well in the ordinary moments as we plant persistently for Your glory, Amen."

PRAY: Pray with each other before coming to group next week. Follow the prompts below if needed, and use the "YIELD" section provided to bring unity as you commit to living out the week's topic.

P | PAUSE to thank God for who He is and for the blessings in your life.

R | REPENT Reflect on your mistakes, confess your shortcomings and ask for forgiveness.

A | ASK Present your requests to God, including needs for yourself and intercession for others.

Y | YIELD Surrender your own will, inviting God's plans and presence to guide your days.

Verse of the Week

Luke 12:34

For where your treasure
is, there your heart will
be also.

Write verse once here:

Write it again:

Write it a third time:

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Luke 12:13-21; Mark 12:41-44

REPLAY (10 minutes)

Reflect on the previous week. How did it go at home?

Assign who will start you off next week, reflecting on their experience with Next Steps, Going Deeper or SOAR.

Where Are We Holding Back?

Talk About It

(group discussion)

Abilities: Steward Sacrificially
The Rich Fool &
The Widow's Gift

1. What is one takeaway from the video?

2. Read: Matthew 6:19-21

How does this passage correlate with The Parable of the Rich Fool and The Parable of the Widow's Gift? How can these passages encourage radical generosity in our marriage?

3. Before you turn to your spouse...

Reflect individually, on a scale from 0-10 (from running on fumes to healthy and energized), how empty or full your cup is right now emotionally, mentally and physically.

Turn to your spouse...

What is one thing filling your cup right now?

What is one thing draining your cup right now?

What is one practical thing I can do this week to help fill your cup or slow the drain?

4. Discuss with your group...

"It's not about equal amounts. It's about equal sacrifice."

Marriage is rarely 50/50. Day-to-day and week-to-week it will ebb back and forth and look more like 80/20 or 60/40. In harder seasons, it may feel more like 90/10. The important thing are clearly communicating with one another where you are at and coming up with a plan. Bitterness grows where there is a lack of clarity in expectations.

How have you experienced this to be true in different seasons? What has relational generosity looked like for you? When have you had to extend it, and when have you been on the receiving end?

SOAR

Complete the reading plan below for this week. Here, you will reflect on **ONE VERSE** you liked most from the four passages. Journal here using the SOAR method, and come together with your spouse before next week to share with one another.

Weekly Passages: Luke 12:32-34, 1 Timothy 6:17-19, Acts 4:32-35, 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

S

O

A

R

"Lord, we yield our plans, our time and what we tend to hold onto too tightly as 'ours.' Free us from storing up for ourselves, and teach us to live open-handed. Make our marriage and family marked by radical hospitality and generosity, ready to welcome, serve and give as You lead. Start in our home and guide our steps today so our lives reflect Your heart. Amen."

PRAY: Pray with each other before coming to group next week. Follow the prompts below if needed, and use the "YIELD" section provided to bring unity as you commit to living out the week's topic.

P | PAUSE to thank God for who He is and for the blessings in your life.

R | REPENT Reflect on your mistakes, confess your shortcomings and ask for forgiveness.

A | ASK Present your requests to God, including needs for yourself and intercession for others.

Y | YIELD Surrender your own will, inviting God's plans and presence to guide your days.

Verse of the Week

1 Peter 4:10

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms

Write verse once here:

Write it again:

Write it a third time:

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From Fans to Followers

Matthew 25:14-30

REPLAY (10 minutes)

Reflect on the previous week. How did it go at home?

Assign who will start you off next week, reflecting on their experience with Next Steps, Going Deeper or SOAR.

Are We Building Together or Breaking Apart?



Talk About It

(group discussion)

**Abilities: Steward Sacrificially
The Talents**

1. What is one takeaway from the video?

2. Read: Colossians 3:23-24

How does this passage correlate with The Parable of the Talents? How can these two passages encourage us to more intentionally steward the giftings of our spouse?

3. Turn to your spouse...

What is one strength in your spouse you've learned to really appreciate?

When it comes to encouraging the giftings and callings of your spouse which of the following do you want to be more intentional about?

- Encouraging them (affirming them, spurring them on, cheering big)
- Empowering them (offering support for them to use their gifts, offering resources)
- Engaging with them (showing up, asking intentional and specific questions, prayer, set aside time to dream together)

4. Discuss with your group...

"When it comes to a marriage 'Built for Impact' we want to move from managing separate lives to stewarding one shared calling."

In order to pursue ONE purpose and ONE legacy, which do you and your spouse need most in this season: more space, or more intentional investment?

How can your group pray for you today when it comes to taking a next step in pursuing ONE mission?

Next Steps (walk it out)

- Going Deeper *(reflect below individually then discuss together)*

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

SOAR

Complete the reading plan below for this week. Here, you will reflect on **ONE VERSE** you liked most from the four passages. Journal here using the SOAR method, and come together with your spouse before next week to share with one another.

Weekly Passages: Luke 16:10-12, Romans 12:4-8, 1 Peter 4:8-11, 1 Peter 5:2-4

S
O
A
R

"Jesus, don't let our marriage be small, guarded or inward-focused. Stretch our faith, grow our courage, and use the way we love each other to strengthen the people around us. Help us invest what You've placed in us instead of playing it safe, and build a marriage that leaves people more seen, more hopeful and more aware of You. Amen."

PRAY: Pray with each other before coming to group next week. Follow the prompts below if needed, and use the "YIELD" section provided to bring unity as you commit to living out the week's topic.

P | PAUSE to thank God for who He is and for the blessings in your life.

R | REPENT Reflect on your mistakes, confess your shortcomings and ask for forgiveness.

A | ASK Present your requests to God, including needs for yourself and intercession for others.

Y | YIELD Surrender your own will, inviting God's plans and presence to guide your days.

Verse of the Week

1 Peter 5:8

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Write verse once here:

Write it again:

Write it a third time:

Built for Impact: From Fans to Followers

From Fans to Followers

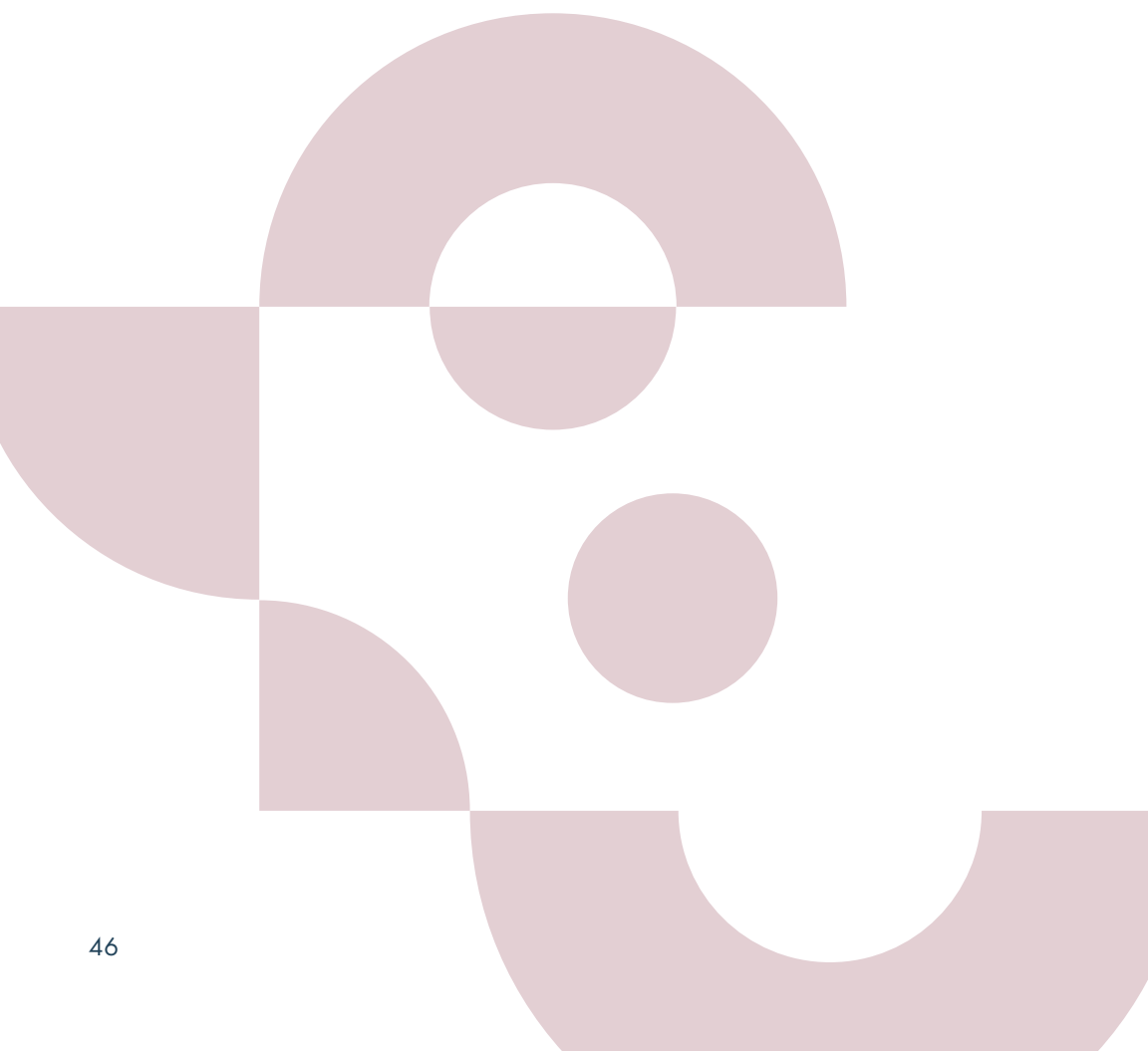
Luke 12:35-48

REPLAY (10 minutes)

Reflect on the previous week. How did it go at home?

Assign who will start you off next week, reflecting on their experience with Next Steps, Going Deeper or SOAR.

Where Are We Drifting?



Talk About It

(group discussion)

Ambitions: Seek Steadfastly
Watchful Servants

1. What is one takeaway from the video?

2. Read: Philippians 4:4-9

How does this passage correlate with The Parable of the Watchful Servants? How can these two passages encourage us to be more intentional with our “yes” or “no” when it comes to our schedule?

3. Before you turn to your spouse...

Reflect individually, and write down all of your current commitments and priorities in this season. Write them in the columns below based on importance (1=top tier, 2=second tier, 3=third tier).

1. _____	2. _____	3. _____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Turn to your spouse...

Compare lists.

Where do you feel like you are winning as a team?

Where might you need to realign or reprioritize?

4. Discuss with your group...

Read: Proverbs 16:9 and Matthew 6:33

Sometimes God calls us to stay, and sometimes God calls us to go. It's our job to listen for His voice to guide our steps as we also prepare for where He may be leading us next.

Share a time when you were waiting for God to answer or move in a situation.

What did it look like to seek God first, while also preparing for “next”?

Be About It (1:1 @home)

Set aside intentional time to connect with your spouse this week. Review the *Next Steps* below and decide together which you will commit to. Next week, be ready to share your experience with your group.

Next Steps *(walk it out)*

- **Identify** one area where you have been coasting or grown complacent when it comes to prioritizing your health? (Matthew 22:36-38)

Checking Your “RPMS”: (R)elational Health
(P)hysical Health
(M)ental Health
(S)piritual Health

- **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom and discernment where you need a tune-up.
- **Choose** to ask for help! Share with your spouse one way they can encourage or support you in a particular area so you can show up more healthy and whole in your marriage.

Going Deeper *(reflect below individually then discuss together)*

Reflect on the commitments and priorities you wrote down in question three. Reorder them now into two categories: “big rocks” and “small rocks.” Share with your spouse, agree on what goes where and commit to keeping the “big rocks” first!

1. **BIG ROCKS = Irreplaceable, Identity-Shaping, Long-Term Impact.** If you remove it, something essential breaks down in who you are becoming and what you’re building together.

Ask: “If this disappeared for a season, would something deeply important suffer?”

“Does this shape who we are who you are and what we want to reflect as a family?”

“Will this matter 5, 10, 15 years from now?”

SMALL ROCKS = Replaceable, Urgent, Seasonal, Habitual. If you remove it, life may feel uncomfortable — but nothing essential breaks.

Ask: “Am I just used to this, or is it truly essential?”

“Is this filling space more than forming us?”

“Did this become important by default or by design?”

BIG ROCKS

SMALL ROCKS

SOAR

Complete the reading plan below for this week. Here, you will reflect on **ONE VERSE** you liked most from the four passages. Journal here using the SOAR method, and come together with your spouse before next week to share with one another.

Weekly Passages: 1 Peter 1:13-19, Ephesians 6:10-18, 1 Peter 5:6-9, Hebrews 6:10-12

S O A R

Jesus, quiet our hearts so we can hear Your voice clearly today. Lead us and order our steps in our marriage and family. Help us to be faithful with what You've already placed in our hands: each other, our home and the people You've put in our lives. Keep us alert, attentive to You and ready to respond quickly to what You're asking of us. We trust You with the story You are writing. It is our desire to keep You first in all we do. Amen."

PRAY: Pray with each other before coming to group next week. Follow the prompts below if needed, and use the "YIELD" section provided to bring unity as you commit to living out the week's topic.

P | PAUSE to thank God for who He is and for the blessings in your life.

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Y | YIELD Surrender your own will, inviting God's plans and presence to guide your days.

Verse of the Week

Matthew 25:40

The King will reply, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

Rewrite Verse

Write it again:

Write it a third time:

Built for Impact: From Fans to Followers

From Fans to Followers

Luke 14:15-24

REPLAY (10 minutes)

Reflect on the previous week. How did it go at home?

Assign who will start you off next week, reflecting on their experience with Next Steps, Going Deeper or SOAR.

Where Can We Make Space?



Talk About It

(group discussion)

Ambitions: Seek Steadfastly
The Great Feast

1. What is one takeaway from the video?

2. Read: Matthew 25:34-40

How does this passage correlate with The Parable of the Feast? How can these two passages encourage us to cultivate radical hospitality in our marriage?

3. Turn to your spouse...

The invitation to the feast was generous but urgent. While no one said, "No, I will not or cannot come," they all gave excuses and said, "Later!"

What are the urgent "good things" that all too easily seem to take precedence over our presence and connection with one another?

Write down your next day date or date night here: _____

What are you going to do? _____

4. Discuss with your group...

In this parable, we see three common themes. Which of them stood out to you the most?

Grace vs. Entitlement: The feast is a free invitation, not something people earn or deserve.

Inclusion vs. Exclusivity: God's invitation reaches beyond expected circles. Invitation vs. Participation: Acknowledging God is not the same as obeying Him.

Hospitality is the heart of the gospel. "Come and feast ... and invite others!"

Our homes should reflect the hospitality and generosity of the gospel. Our lives should be an invitation. Sometimes the most sacred and holy thing we can do is invite someone to our table.

Who do you know that models this well?

What neighbor, friend or coworker do you need to text this week and invite over for dinner?

Be About It (1:1 @ home)

Set aside intentional time to connect with your spouse this week. Review the *Next Steps* below and decide together which you will commit to. Next week, be ready to share your experience with your group.

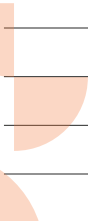
Next Steps (walk it out)

- **Identify** one invitation you have been putting off either accepting or offering.
- **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to give you a renewed heart for people. Ask, *“May our marriage and family be a welcoming and safe space where others can experience Jesus.”*
- **Choose** to cancel, reschedule or say no to one nonessential commitment this week so you can more intentionally invest that time in your marriage, family or a neighbor.

Going Deeper *(reflect below individually then discuss together)*

"Don't settle for crumbs when you've been invited to feast!"

If your current pace of life and relationships stayed exactly the same for the next six months to one year, what kind of “feast” could you unintentionally be missing? What excuses have you been making? Pray: *“God, expose my apathy and tendency to lean comfort and convenience. Embolden me to seek Your glory above all else. With radical hospitality and generosity, may those around me come to know the hope I have in You.”*



SOAR

Complete the reading plan below for this week. Here, you will reflect on **ONE VERSE** you liked most from the four passages. Journal here using the SOAR method, and come together with your spouse before next week to share with one another.

Weekly Passages: Romans 10:11-15, Deuteronomy 10:17-20, Hebrews 13:1-3, Luke 14:12-14

S O A R

"Jesus, shape our marriage into a life that reflects Your Kingdom. Help us love generously, forgive quickly, stay faithful in the small things and pursue what matters most. Keep our hearts soft, our hands open and our eyes fixed on You. Use our marriage to bring hope, healing and encouragement to the people around us, and teach us to live with eternity in mind. Amen."

PRAY: Pray with each other before coming to group next week. Follow the prompts below if needed, and use the "YIELD" section provided to bring unity as you commit to living out the week's topic.

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one purpose
one legacy

Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.

Mark 8:34-35



**Grace Family
Church**