



Just Ok is Not Ok

Part 1 - There's More For Your Marriage

Discussion Guide

When most people are asked how a relationship is going, their response will be “ok.” However, God didn’t design our relationships to just be “ok.” He wants your relationships to be more than just ok. It’s possible to have great relationships and even a great marriage. When we put forth the effort to strengthen our marriages and relationships, we can live the life God intended.

Jump Start

Leader: This section is designed to get discussions started, examine God’s truth, and apply it to our week.

1. What are the top three things in which you invest your time?
2. *Keep your priorities clear.* **Read [Matthew 22:36-38](#)**. What is the most important commandment? What does it look like, in today’s world, to love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength? Why is this at the core of a loving and strong relationship? Would you say God is your first priority?
3. *Keep Christ at the center.* All relationships have a purpose. Think of one relationship in your life. What have you always thought was the purpose of that relationship? **Read [Ephesians 5:21-33](#)**. What should our purpose be based off this scripture? What determines how you should relate to others? Are you reflecting God’s character in your relationships?
4. *Keep getting up.* Life constantly throws us curve balls and we get knocked down. We have health issues that cause strain or infertility. Maybe your marriage hasn’t been honored or your priorities have been wrong. You may have spoken hurtful words in some of your relationships. Sometimes the problem is a combination of several things going wrong at the same time. **Read [Proverbs 24:16](#), [Galatians 6:9](#) and [John 11:34-43](#)**. What do these scriptures say we should do when we get knocked down?
5. Final Thought: We were challenged this week to continue to get back up--no matter what happens--and get back in your marriage. Specifically, we were asked to commit to praying daily with our spouses. Did you take the challenge? Write down or share with your Life Group this or another practical step you need to take to “get back in your marriage” or invest in another relationship you realize needs work.

Deeper

Leader: This section is designed for further use in your Life Group or for personal study. These can also be used as discussion points and ways to stay connected with your group throughout the week.

6. **Read [Ephesians 5:21-28](#)**. The challenge for wives is to submit to their husbands, just as believers are called to submit to Christ. Husbands are challenged to love, sanctify, and even “cleanse” their wives. Upon first glance, what does this mean? Is it offensive? Outdated?

7. “Wives, Submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.” **Read [Philippians 2:3-8](#), [James 4:7-10](#), [Luke 22:42](#), and [Hebrews 13:17](#)**. How does God call us to treat authority as compared to how to treat Him? When is it right to stand up to authority? When is it right to submit?

8. **Read [1 Corinthians 14:34 and Titus 2:5](#)**. How did the culture of the time impact these verses? How would we apply these verses today?

9. “Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.” **Read [John 15:13](#), [Ephesians 5:2](#), [Mark 10:45](#), and [Titus 2:14](#)**. Beyond the cross, in what ways did Jesus sacrifice for us? If husbands are called to love their wife as Christ loved the church, what does this look like? At times these verses have been manipulated for power, but as we look at how Jesus used his power, what do you think God’s true intention was with these verses?