2 WEEKS





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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Meeting Each Other's Needs

WEEK 1 Understanding Your Wife's Deepest Need	4
WEEK 2 Understanding Your Husband's Deepest Need	6
Additional Resources	9
Top 10 Tips for Leading a Small Group	10
Group Agreement	.11



<u>Understanding</u>

SMALL GROUP STUDY

Kicking it off:

Share what first attracted you to your spouse?

Big Idea:

Husbands will be blessed by meeting the needs of their wife.

Key Scriptures:

1 Corinthians 7:3

"A man should fulfill his duty as a husband and a woman should fulfill her duty as a wife, and each should satisfy the other's needs."

Ephesians 5:28b

"The love a man gives his wife is the extending of his love for himself to enfold her."

Colossians 3:19

"Husbands give your wives much love; never treat them harshly."

Ephesians 5:29

"No man ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and carefully protects and cherishes it, as Christ does the church."

1 Peter 3:7

"Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner, and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers."

Philippians 2:2

"Live together in harmony and love, as though you had only one mind and one spirit between you."

Philippians 2:4

"Don't just think about your own affairs, but be interested in others too, and in what they are doing."

Ephesians 5:21

"Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ."



Your Wife's

Discussion:

- Read 1 Corinthians 7:3. Have you ever thought of meeting one another's needs as a biblical mandate? Why or why not?
- 2. How committed are you to meeting your spouse's needs?
- Read all of the above
 Scriptures. Highlight or
 underline all the things you
 find in those Scriptures that a
 husband should provide for his
 wife.
- Husbands, which of these do you struggle most with providing for your wife? Ask your wife which of these she needs most from you.
- List some of the benefits or consequences that results from not meeting the needs of your wife based on the above Scriptures.
- 6. In book His Needs, Her Needs, Dr. Willard Harley asserts that

what wives need most are:

- Affection
- Conversation
- Honesty and openness
- · Financial security
- · Commitment to family
- 7. Wives, does this ring true for you? Which of these is most valuable to you?
- 8. Husbands, what steps are you willing to take to meet your wife's greatest needs?

Wrapping It Up:

Take some time to pray together that each of you would have a willingness to meet the needs of the other.

Memory Verse:

"A man should fulfill his duty as a husband and a woman should fulfill her duty as a wife, and each should satisfy the other's needs."

1 Corinthians 7:3



<u>Understanding</u>

SMALL GROUP STUDY

Kicking it off:

Describe the most romantic moment you've shared together as a couple.

Big Idea:

Wives will be blessed by meeting the needs of their husband.

Key Scriptures:

1 Corinthians 7:3-5

"A man should fulfill his duty as a husband and a woman should fulfill her duty as a wife, and each should satisfy the other's needs. The wife has no longer all rights over her body but shares them with her husband. In the same way, the husband's body doesn't belong to him alone but also to his wife. Do not cheat each other of normal sexual intercourse, unless you both decide to abstain temporarily to

make special time for prayer. But afterwards you should resume relations as before, or you will expose yourselves to the obvious temptations of Satan."

Ecclesiastes 9:9

"Live happily with the woman you love through the fleeting days of life, for the wife God gives you is your best reward down here for all your earthly toil."

Colossians 3:18

"Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord."

1 Samuel 16:7

"Man looks at the outward appearance but God looks at the heart."

Proverbs 17:1

"Better a dry crust with peace and quiet than a house full of feasting with strife."



Your Husband's

Proverbs 14:1

"The wise woman builds her house, but with her own hands the foolish one tears hers down."

Titus 2:4-5

"(Women are)... to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God."

Ephesians 5:33

"Let the wife see that she respects and reverences her husband -- that she notices him, regards him, honors him, prefers him, and esteems him; and that she defers to him, praises him, and loves and admires him exceedingly." (Amplified)

Discussion:

Read 1 Corinthians 7:3-5.
 Discuss your perspective of what "fulfilling your duty" as a husband and as a wife means.

- What does this passage express that to mean?
- In what ways do you struggle with fulfilling your duty as a husband or a wife? What steps/commitment might you take to be more faithful in doing so?
- 3. Read Ecclesiastes 9:9. Wives, in what way are you God's best reward for your husband? Are there any actions you might take to fulfill that role more fully?
- 4. Read Colossians 3:18. This passage is often viewed negatively by many women. Why do you think that is?
- 5. In what ways do some men misuse this passage?
- 6. The word submit is actually something that is freely given, not something that is demanded. How does that change the context of this passage?

- 7. Read Proverbs 14:1 and 17:1.

 Describe what kind of actions might result in causing strife and destruction in your home? How might you avoid these behaviors?
- 8. Read Titus 2:4-5 and Ephesians 5:33. These are all instruction that help to build a healthy and happy home. Wives, with which do you struggle most?
- 9. Husbands, which of these would you most like to see from your wife?
- 10. How might you cultivate more of these actions in your own life?
- 11. In book His Needs, Her Needs, Dr. Willard Harley asserts that what husbands need most are:
 - Sexual Fulfillment
 - · Recreational Companionship
 - An Attractive Spouse
 - Domestic Support
 - Admiration
- 12. Husbands, does this ring true for you? Which of these is most valuable to you?
- 13. Wives, what steps are you willing to take to meet your husband's greatest needs?

Wrapping It Up:

Take some time to pray as a couple right now – that you will cultivate a life and attitude where you consistently meet one another's needs.

Memory Verse:

"The wise woman builds her house, but with her own hands the foolish one tears hers down."

Proverbs 14:1

NOTES:

Additional Resources

Consider engaging in the reading plan,

The 5 Love Languages -7 day Devotional for Him and for Her,
 available free on the YouVersion Bible app and online.





Top Tips for Leading a Small Group

- 1. Establish a welcoming, accepting, and safe environment.
 - Take time to prepare.
 - Make sure to give a warm enthusiastic greeting to each person.
 - Verbally communicate the environment that you hope to create.
 - Ephesians 4:1-3
- 2. On the opening night of your group you need to have some intentional discussions centered around these questions:
 - What is the purpose of our group?
 - What is the vision for our group?
 - What are your expectations?
 - What do you hope to gain from this group experience?
 - What are some things we value as a group?
 - What are some healthy guidelines we need to have in place?
 Review and sign a group agreement.
- 3. Be authentic. Spend time sharing your life stories in order to get to know each other on a deeper level.
- 4. Find a good balance between:
 - · Truth and grace/Bible study and life
 - · Encouraging and challenging one another
 - · Giving and receiving feedback from each other
- 5. Ask good questions to stimulate good discussion. Use open ended questions and follow up questions.
- 6. Hang out together, do things socially, eat together and have fun together!
- 7. Develop a missional lifestyle, find a service project to do together in the community.
- 8. Raise up new leadership by rotating facilitation of the group.
- 9. Share the responsibilities in order to increase individual commitment and ownership of the group.
- 10. Pray for your group and for each other!

Find ways to celebrate what God is doing in your group! Who else could you invite to join you in order that their life may be impacted by what God is doing in your group?

Group Agreement

OUR PURPOSE

To transform our spiritual lives by cultivating our spiritual health in a healthy small group community. In addition, we: __

OUR VALUES

Group Attendance: To give priority to the group meeting. We will call or email if we will be late or absent.

Safe Environment: To help create a safe place where people can be heard and feel loved. (Please, no quick answers, snap judgments, or simple fixes.)

Respect Differences: To be gentle and gracious to people with different spiritual maturity, personal opinions, temperaments, or imperfections. We are all works in progress.

Confidentiality: To keep anything that is shared strictly confidential and within the group, and to avoid sharing improper information about those outside the group.

Encouragement for Growth: To be not just takers but givers of life. We want to spiritually multiply our life by serving others with our God-given gifts.

Welcome for Newcomers: To keep an open chair and share Jesus' dream of finding a shepherd for every sheep.

Shared Ownership: To remember that every member is a minister and to ensure that each attender will share a small team role or responsibility over time.

Rotating Hosts/Leaders and Homes: To encourage different people to host the group in their homes, and to rotate the responsibility of facilitating each meeting.

OUR EXPECTATIONS		
•	Refreshments/mealtimes	
•	Childcare	
	When we will meet (day of week)	
•	Where we will meet (place)	
	We will begin at (time) and end at	
•	We will do our best to have some or all of us attend a worship service together.	
•	Our primary worship service time will be	
•	Date of this agreement	
	Date we will review this agreement again	
	Who (other than the leader) will review this agreement at the end of this study	

