

DISCUSSION GUIDE

“Strings Attached” Week 2 | Tim Ross

WHAT’S YOUR SECRET?

As the Scriptures say, “A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.” This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one.

-Ephesians 5:31-32 (NLT)

THE BIBLE STARTS WITH A MARRIAGE AND ENDS WITH A MARRIAGE.

Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib, and he brought her to the man.

-Genesis 2:22 (NLT)

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

-Revelation 21:2 (NLT)

Then one of the seven angels who held the seven bowls containing the seven last plagues came and said to me, “Come with me! I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.”

-Revelation 21:9 (NLT)

The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.”

-Revelation 22:17 (NLT)

**MARRIAGE IS GOD’S METAPHOR TO EXPRESS HIS LOVE:
FIRST TO ISRAEL
SECOND TO THE CHURCH**

**JESUS EXPLAINS MARRIAGE.
MARRIAGE EXPLAINS JESUS.**

3 WAYS MARRIAGE EXPLAINS JESUS:

1. MARRIAGE SHOWS UNITY.

As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one."

-Ephesians 5:31 (NLT)

2. MARRIAGE SHOWS SACRIFICE.

And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything. For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her.

-Ephesians 5:21-25 (NLT)

3. MARRIAGE SHOWS LOVE.

So again I say, "Each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband."

-Ephesians 5:33 (NLT)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What are some questions or curiosities you have from today's message? (Leader Note: This is a great place to understand where your group is in their spiritual walk and understanding. Encourage members to ask whatever questions they may have - often, people are hesitant to ask questions when they feel they might be too "basic" or about something they should already know)
2. What is one point from the message that stuck out to you? Why? (Leader Note: As members share their points, allow people to engage with one another about these points. Are two or more people bringing up the same point? Use that time to talk more about it, see how it moves you and your members - the Holy Spirit may be leading your House Party in a specific direction)
3. What is a truth about God, the world, or yourself that you have learned today?
4. What is one way you can apply this message to your life this week? (Leader Note: Great applications are S.M.A.R.T: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound).