

Marriage and Family: Enjoying The Journey
201: Biblical Foundations-Part 2 Roles of Wives & Husbands

LESSON 2: Cleaving-The Key To Oneness

1. Christian Perspectives:

Genesis 2:18

The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

Genesis 2:23-25

*The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."*

[24] For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. [25] The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

Matthew 19:5-6

and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? [6] So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

2. Christian Principles:

2.1 Cleaving means to stick together

2.2 Cleaving means to remain loyal

2.3 Cleaving means to join together

2.4 Cleaving involves reordering competing priorities

2.5 Cleaving requires cleaning up your past

- Make your sexual sin list privately
- Confess each sin to the Lord
- Receive God's forgiveness
- Apologize to your spouse if you sinned with them
- Forgive and let it go

2.6 Cleaving involves sharing more areas of your life together

2.7 Cleaving requires keeping short accounts

- Apply grace and mercy liberally to mistakes
- Extend forgiveness quickly to hurts

2.8 Cleaving includes healthy sexual intimacy

3. Christian Practices:

3.1 Cleanse yourself of past relational and sexual sins

3.2 Apologize and forgive where needed, in order to move forward

3.3 Recommit to pursuing greater closeness with your spouse

4. Discussion Questions:

- 4.1 Encourage everyone to wear name tags with names written boldly. Spend the first few minutes sharing updates from this past week for each group member. Record your group member names and needs in the "Prayer Journal" located in the Appendix.
- 4.2 Break into gender groups for lessons. 2 -- 5.
- 4.3 Discuss the wisdom behind "leaving and cleaving".
- 4.4 Discuss how your understanding of cleaving has improved from this lesson
- 4.5 What are the highlights you will use from this lesson?
- 4.6 Spend the last 10 minutes in prayer for each other. Record your prayer requests in the "Prayer Journal."