



Sermon Discussion Guide

For the Sake of the Kingdom - Tim Knipp

February 5, 2022

Leader Preparation

1. Take some time to look over these questions ahead of time. Choose the ones that you want to make sure you cover with your group. We have highlighted what we think are **key ideas/questions by bolding them.**
2. Pray for your group and your time together as you prepare. This is so helpful!
3. When meeting online you as the leader will need to be more directive than in person. Don't be afraid to invite everyone to answer a question, invite them to share by name, and thank them when they finish. The online format requires a little more intentional orchestrating than an in-person group.
4. Try to start the gathering by getting everyone talking at least once to begin. The Hook section is great for this. When in doubt, have people share stories about their past. (How the week was, favorite memories about the topic for the day, etc). This is a great way to help your group continue to get to know one another.
5. Next, look at the Scripture and what it means. We believe Jesus is discipling people through this Word. Get people into the Scriptures and the Scriptures into people!
6. Finally, end with what God is saying to people and how God is inviting them to respond. These aren't just ideas to know but realities to live in!



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Hook - Getting to know one another

- How is everyone doing this week? Add other questions to get to know one another, especially ones related to the topic in the sermon.
- Tell about a time when your views on something were transformed. What brought this about?

Book - Scripture

- Read the scripture passages and discuss to understand **what the text is saying**:
 - **Read Matthew 19: 1-12.**
 - How does Jesus reframe the issue brought forward by the Pharisees?
 - In both Matthew 19:4 and 19:8, Jesus references “the beginning”. How does this relate to Jesus’ teaching here?
 - Based on the text, what is the purpose of marriage? What is it not?
 - How do the disciples respond? Why might they do so?
- Read **2 Corinthians 3:18**
- How do we see this process of being transformed into God’s image represented in the passage from Matthew 19?
 - In relationship to marriage and divorce?
 - In relationship to celibate singleness?



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Look - Connections to our world today

- This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.
- Tim explained that when we walk with Jesus, both marriage and singleness are meant to make us holy, not to make us happy or fulfilled.
 - How does Jesus' view on both marriage and singleness encourage you?
 - What challenges you in Jesus' view on marriage and singleness?
- What is challenging to walking in this kingdom-focused view of relationships?
- When in your life have you seen someone really living this call out?
 - In singleness?
 - In marriage?
- In 2 Corinthians 3:18, we see that our being formed and reformed in Christ's image is a general call, rather than specific only to marriage and singleness. What other areas of life can this be applied to?

Took - Personal Application

- This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.
- How can we as a community be encouraging and supporting one another as we live out our friendships and relationships for the Kingdom?
 - As a small group?
 - As a church?
- Who is a married or single person in your life you feel particularly called to support in the place they are at?
- For you personally:



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- How did you find yourself encouraged by Jesus vision of marriage and singleness?
- How do did you personally feel challenged to grow by Jesus?
- How can others be praying for you in that?

Time of Prayer