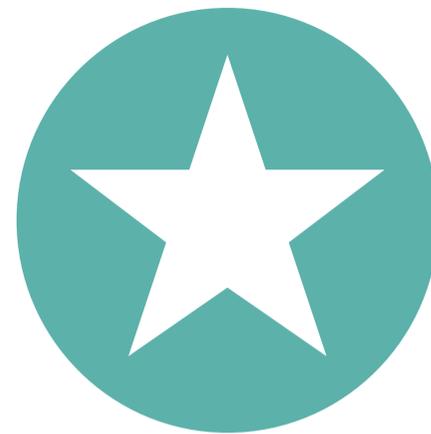


THE VOW, WEEK 4



Series overview for “The Vow.”

Wedding vows are more than a declaration of love—they hold the keys to a strong, lasting marriage. Whether you hope to get married someday or you’ve already tied the knot, discover what The Vow and specifically the vows of Priority, Pursuit, Partnership and Purity can mean for the future.

Icebreaker Question:

How does discussing sex in a spiritual or church setting make you feel? Do you feel that same way discussing sex in other social settings? Why do you think there’s a difference, especially when the Bible speaks so much about sex?

LifeGroup Discussion Questions: **Don’t feel like you have to get through all the questions below. We create and give you more than you need to ensure that you have all that you need. Feel free to add / takeaway based on the needs of your group.*

Take a look at the Vows from the past three weeks of this series:

- #1 I vow that God will be my first priority and my spouse will be my second
- #2 I vow our marriage will be more about WE and less about ME
- #3 I vow to never stop pursuing you

Which of these vows do you find the most intriguing? Challenging?

Before this past weeks message, how would you have finished the following sentence: Sex is _____ .

Read Gen 2:24, Song of Songs 7:7-12, 1 Corinthians 7:3-6.

What sticks out to you about God’s design for sex in those passages?

What do you think God would write in the following blank: Sex is _____ .

Why do you think our culture is obsessed with sex? Has more and more public discussion of sex been a good thing or bad thing? Is sex something we’ve made more important than it was intended to be?

How is the following vow from week 4 a game changer for marriages? “I vow to be selfless with sex.”

What action steps do you and your spouse need to work through, talk about and apply to work towards oneness through the God-given gift of sex?

How can the group help you continue to work on the vows you have made in this series in the weeks and months to come?

Questions for husbands and wives to discuss on their own:

**Answer the following questions individually and then find a time to share your answers with one another.*

1. Do you tend to minimize or over-emphasize the importance of sex? Why?
2. Is there anything in your life that could be having a negative impact on your sex life, e.g., sexual abuse, pornography or not taking care of your body? What next step do you need to take to begin to address this?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 7:3-5. Are there ways you have withheld your body from your spouse? Are there ways you have been demanding or selfish of your spouse's body? Pray for God's help in doing your part to move your sex life to the place God intends.
4. Ask your spouse how they feel about your sexual intimacy. Ask what they feel are the biggest barriers to intimacy and what you can do to address them. Don't be defensive. Simply try to understand and focus on what you can do to serve your spouse.

WHAT'S AHEAD:

Discussion Guides On the Web: You can now access the Sermon Content for your group on the NMC webpage. To access, click on the "Watch Messages" tab on the home page and under each message will be a button to click for Discussion Guides. These guides will be published to webpage by Tuesday after the message was taught.

Sermon Series Schedule: So you can plan ahead as to what content best fits your group, here is a heads up as to the sermon content schedule from now through the summer.

Next week we jump back into our James Series. Here is the schedule for the rest of James:

- May 26 / James 4:1-12
- June 2 / James 4:13-17
- June 9 / James 5:7-12
- June 16 / James 5:13-20

***We will begin our "At the Movies" series on June 23rd.**