

York St Small Groups

Sermon Based Studies

SUNDAY 20 October 2019

The Road

Have I told you lately that I love you?

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12



Please note that these studies are designed to be explored after hearing the Sunday Sermon and also to be accompanied by a time of prayer/sharing and supper.

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Q1. We were created to be in community, some of us are single, others married, others are looking for that person to share life with. Can you think of a time when you felt loved?

Q2. Can you remember a time when you had other people around you, but you still didn't feel loved?

INTO THE WORD

Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Q3. We see in this passage that without God life is meaningless, and if we work with one another towards HIM then life makes sense. How can we as a church fulfil this for those who are single?

Q4. How can we as a church help those who are divorced or widowed?

Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-15

Q5. We are called to be equally yoked when it comes to our key relationships. How can we encourage this, and how do we support those who may have come to faith after being married, or are wrestling with what this means for their life?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

Q6. God is clear on sexual immorality. How does this relate to the western world today, how does it relate to us in our day to day, and what can we do about it?

GOING DEEPER

Read Genesis 2:18-24

Q8. We are created to be in community. We are created so that two could become one, and if we are not as strong as Paul (1 Cor 7:7;28) when it comes to our desires, then the only choice is to get married. (1 Cor 7:9). This is contradictory to the world's view. Why?

Read Ephesians 5:22-28

Q9. This well-known chapter is often taken as a 'dominating' authority-based passage, 2 verses challenge this thought (v22&25). The idea of "your own" identifies a belonging which comes from a culture of being 'protected' or falling under the family name and protection, not a possession or slave. The ask of the husband in verse 25 speaks of the husband giving their lives for their wives. This unity of two becoming one, selflessly loving the other is powerful in a world where selfishness drives many of the relationships we have. How does selfless love in marriage help others see God in how we treat our partners?

CONCLUSION & PRAYER

Whether you are in a relationship or not, whether you are looking or not, God calls us to walk a narrow road in how we love others. We are to mirror the way Jesus loved in how we love those around us. How can you honour God this week with your relationships?

Pray for those in various stages of relationships: single, dating, married, divorced or widowed, that God will be in the centre of their relationships.