

SERMON GUIDE

AS CHRIST LOVED THE CHURCH

Philippians 2:1-11; 1 Peter 3:7

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Faith Community Church | fchudson.com

Conversation Questions

Getting to know me: Is there anything you were encouraged or inspired by in the first message(s) in this series?

About the passage: For this series, we are presuming that: *Headship means that an organic and mysterious union exists between a husband and wife, like the union that exists between Christ and his church. This creates a unique sense of spiritual accountability in husbands that should be worked out in sacrificial, transforming love.*

Read Philippians 2:1-11 and 1 Peter 3:7

- S** What verses, phrases, or words stand out to you as you read this text? Is anything “illuminated” or jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O** Where can you see the definition of ‘head’ (see “about this passage) expressed in the scripture reading today? Be specific and point to particular phrases and words.
- O** Last week we read that as the ‘head’ of his wife, a husband is to love her “as Christ loved the church” (Ephesians 5:25). Philippians 2:1-11 spells out for us what Jesus did to “love the church”. In light of this:
- What do you think it means for husbands to “empty themselves” the way that Jesus did?
- Thinking about Philippians 2:1-11, what would it look like for a man to abdicate his role as head?
- What does it mean that husbands have a “unique sense of spiritual accountability” for their families the way Christ does for the church? How is this different than being “the boss”?
- O** According to these verses, what can a man do if he finds he is having a hard time avoiding false expressions of headship (i.e. domination, making demands, choosing passivity, etc)?
- O** When a couple experiences a disagreement or conflict, what might the truth of these verses look like if they were being believed and acted out?
- A** For men: Is the Spirit bringing any conviction or clarity to your heart about how you have been relating to your wife (for married men) or to women you might date (for unmarried men)?
- Is there anything that you know needs to change today?
- For women: Is the Spirit bringing any conviction or clarity to your heart about how you’ve been relating to your husband (for married women) or to men you might date (for unmarried women)?
- P** Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction that you need.

The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the ‘live’ page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

Scripture that stands out to you while you read

Observations about the verse or phrases that stood out to you

Application that connect the verses to your real life and relationships

Prayer that invites God to participate in your life and provide power to follow him