SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Message Series: From This Day Forward: From Dating to Marriage
Message Title: Seek God
Speaker: Kevin Queen
Date: February 15, 2015

Icebreaker:
Have you ever had to wait for something that you thought would never happen, but finally did? Was it worth the wait?

Message Overview:
Today’s message is the first in the series FROM THIS DAY FORWARD. This series is based on the book From This Day Forward: Five Commitments to Fail-Proof Your Marriage by Pastor Craig and Amy Groeschel (http://smile.amazon.com/dp/B00J1UEABA). This week, Pastor Kevin Queen (KQ) shared a lesson about seeking God. Whether you are married or not, this message can speak to you about the importance of seeking God first, and then seeking godly relationships.

Big Picture: You were created BY God and FOR God.
1. He is the only person who can fulfill you.
2. He has the power to change you.
3. He is the purpose that is greater than your pressure.

Best Practice: Seek God by praying together.

Discussion:
(Leaders: The questions that follow are designed to stir reflection and discussion on this week’s primary message points. Please read through them prior to your meeting, so you can be prepared to prayerfully pace your group well. And remember, as leader, your goal is to promote increased biblical awareness, as well as individual self awareness – a combination that with the help of the Holy Spirit, results in revelation and...transformation!)

- Read Genesis 2:7. How does this verse speak to you regarding the big picture, that you were created by God and for God?
  KQ said, “God’s exhale was Adam’s first inhale, and when his lungs filled, his eyes opened, and Adam looked up, what’s he looking at? He was staring at the face of God.”
  Before there was any other relationship, there was the first relationship: you and God. You were made for God. Your significance, meaning, purpose, and identity come from him. Your
relationship with him defines all your other relationships.
Read Matthew 6:33. What does it mean to you to seek God first?

- Read Genesis 2:18-24. How do these verses speak to why God created marriage?
  KQ said, “This time when Adam wakes up, he’s looking at the face of his Eve.”
  When God created man, he breathed into him. When God created Eve, she took Adam’s breath away. If you are married, what about your spouse has taken your breath away? How can you affirm and encourage them in that?
  What do you think God would say takes his breath away when he thinks of you? Scripture says, “The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing” (Zephaniah 3:17). How does that verse make you feel?

- KQ shared an illustration of farmers in the Midwest tying themselves with a rope anchored to their houses before going to prepare the barn for a blizzard.
  Does the illustration apply to a past time in your life, or do you see its application currently?
  It’s possible to get lost in your own back yard. KQ said “your rope in life is only as secure as what it is anchored to—your hope is tied to Christ Jesus.”
  Do you remember a time that you weren’t anchored and got lost? or Has there been a time when you have had to cling to the rope for fear of getting lost?
  Are you clinging to the rope in certain areas of your life now?

- Read Hebrews 10: 23-25. What practical things do you find in this verse to help you hold on?
  (Don’t give up meeting together; encourage one another...)

- KQ asked us to commit to praying in and for our marriage. Can anyone share how they are trying to make prayer a part of their relationships with God and with others?

**Wrap-Up/Close:**
KQ prayed that God would change us, fulfill us, draw us closer to him and closer to each other.
In which of these ways can the group pray with you?

**Throughout the Week: (Optional)**

- Pray: “Father, thank you that you love me. Thank you for making me for you. God, I need your help. Help me love you with everything I am. Remind me to come to you over and over, every hour. Help me to start and keep the habit of seeking you. I pray that you would use my relationships to reveal places in my lives where you want to work, that I would depend on your grace, that you would change my heart and mind to make me more like Christ. Would you forgive me and help me forgive and help heal my relationships, drawing me closer to you and closer to each other in a way that glorifies you, Amen.

- May 17: Save the Date – what’s going to happen on May 17? Come to the Night of Worship on Feb. 27 (or check online that weekend) to find out what’s going on.