

# GOING THE DISTANCE

You Married the Wrong Person

Text: Genesis 4: 1-7, 17-19

1. The Problem is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Genesis 4—We find that Cain built his son a \_\_\_\_\_, when he should have built him an \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ marriage vs. \_\_\_\_\_ marriage.
2. Why we set ourselves up for failure by marrying our \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. We seek in one person to satisfy our \_\_\_\_\_ needs.
  - b. We seek in one person to satisfy our \_\_\_\_\_ needs.
  - c. We seek in one person to satisfy our \_\_\_\_\_ needs.
3. Two \_\_\_\_\_ persons cannot produce a \_\_\_\_\_ marriage.
  - a. We are sinful and selfish.
  - b. We are rude and arrogant and \_\_\_\_\_ upon our \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. Two \_\_\_\_\_ persons cannot produce the \_\_\_\_\_ child.
4. We do need a \_\_\_\_\_ at the \_\_\_\_\_ of our marriage.
  - a. The Gospel is the essence of what a \_\_\_\_\_ marriage is.
  - b. The Gospel gives us the secret for a healthy marriage.
5. The Gospel message gives us the prescription for a redemptive marriage.
  - a. Humility
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Give
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_

## Action Steps:

1. Find an \_\_\_\_\_ to worship God together. Genesis 4: 17-19
2. Practice \_\_\_\_\_—what would that look like?
3. Practice \_\_\_\_\_ of your spouse.
4. What one incident or hurtful act needs \_\_\_\_\_ in your marriage?

January 19 & 20, 2019

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January 19 & 20, 2019

# Life Group Lesson

## Week of January 20

### You Married the Wrong Person

**Read:** Genesis 4:1-26

**Further Study:** 1 Corinthians 13:5-8, Matthew 5:21-24, Hebrews 11:4, 24, Matthew 6:33

**Goal:** To understand that two flawed people cannot magically produce a perfect marriage. And yet, with Christ at the center, a marriage can become healthy and ‘go the distance.’

#### Before the Video

- How did you envision your spouse ‘completing’ you?
- What is the difference in finding your soul mate, and becoming a soul mate?

#### After the Video

- How can a quest for finding your soul mate – over and above seeking first the Kingdom of God – become idolatrous if we are not careful?

#### Digging into the Bible

- The LORD challenged Cain’s choice to withhold his best from God. Cain’s anger toward God was misdirected toward his brother, Abel. God held Cain accountable, and suddenly Cain realized not only had the LORD banished him from the land but from God’s Presence (Genesis 4:14a). How does sin distance us from God’s presence?
- Jesus says our anger is subject to judgment (Matthew 5:22). While it is often difficult to let go of anger and bitterness – we must choose to forgive, learn to work through the pain, and give our resentment to God. How have you worked through anger in your own life or marriage? What advice would you give another person who is struggling with anger?

#### Going Deeper & Action Steps

- The Lord Jesus is Messiah and true soul mate. There is a place in your heart that only Christ can fill. How damaging is it to expect your spouse to be your messiah?
- How would Cain’s life have been different, if Cain had repented of not giving an acceptable sacrifice? But what did he do when he had a son of his own (Genesis 4:17) Cain couldn’t put a ten on Abel’s forehead because he felt he had a two on his. Do you have this struggle? If someone put a two on us it is hard for us to put a ten on another. You were created in the image of God—claim this for you and those around you!
- Place a “ten” on the forehead of your spouse. Find an altar and worship God together. What one incident or hurtful act needs forgiveness in your marriage?

**Prayer Time**—Pray that God would help you value others by placing a ten on their foreheads.

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