DISCUSSION GUIDE

MONTEREYCHURCH

Pastor Bryan James 07/31/16 - "Introduction to the Song of Songs"

WELCOME: What is your favorite date spot, and why?

WORSHIP: Worship Playlist

WORD: As an introduction to the Song of Songs (Solomon), Pastor Bryan shared that the real power of the book casts a vision and shows men and women what marriage was meant to be, and what marriage can be again. God presents what a perfect marriage looked like at the foundation of creation.

What part of the sermon and scripture really stuck out to you, and why?

Read Genesis 1:26-28

Mankind was originally created for an uninterrupted, perfectly flowing relationship with the Creator. Man and woman, reigning together as equals on God's behalf. Why is that original relationship with God and with one another so foundational for us to understand? What is the difference between dominating and having dominion?

Read Genesis 2:20-25 Adam had perfect relationship and communion with God, but was lacking a relationship with an equal. Why do you think God created Eve out of Adam; rather than creating her out of dirt as he had done with Adam? Describe what you think an open, vulnerable, and unified relationship with a spouse looks like.

Read Genesis 3:7 This verse describes an interrupted relationship with both God and spouse.

What interrupts your relationship with God and how do you reestablish an intimate relationship with Him? (If you are married, how do you work towards an intimate relationship with God and your spouse?)

Read Genesis 3:16 FALSE INTERPRETATION - "You'll love him, and he'll be a jerk". The REAL MEANING is that your core desire will be to control/manipulate him for your own purposes, and his response will be to attempt to dominate and/or be a tyrant over you. GOOD NEWS - because we are being reconciled to God through the cross of Christ, we are being reconciled to one another. What has a reconciled relationship with Christ and His Church done for you in your life and/or in your marriage?

WITNESS: One of the best ways to show the love of Christ is to serve others. How is THIS GROUP SERVING and leading others into a relationship with Christ?