Handout 9-A

**Small-Group Activity: What Is Marriage?**

*Read and summarize each of the following Scripture passages. Then discuss the questions found below.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Scripture** | **Summary** |
| Deuteronomy 22:29 |  |
| Genesis 29:18–20, 27–30 |  |
| Genesis 16 |  |
| Genesis 29:15–30 |  |
| 1 Kings 11:3 |  |

**Discussion Questions:**

1. How does each Scripture passage affirm or differ from your concept of marriage?

2. Why do you think Church law and United States law both forbid polygamy?

3. What do you think should be a wife’s proper relationship with and treatment by her husband?

Handout 9-B

**Chapter 9 SAT Practice: Critical Reading**

*Read Section 1, “Understanding the Sacrament of Matrimony” (pages 292–296). Then indicate the correct answer to each question.*

1. Who taught that the relationship between a husband and wife reflects the intimacy and union between

Christ and the Church? A. Christ

B. St. Paul

C. St. Thomas Aquinas

D. The Council of Trent

2. Who expressed the Church’s longstanding opinion that marriage is a sacrament that gives grace to the couple on their journey toward holiness?

A. John Duns Scotus

B. Martin Luther

C. St. Thomas Aquinas

D. John Calvin

3. Who first compared God to a bridegroom who chooses to marry the woman he loves? A. St. Paul

B. Moses

C. Pope Francis

D. Hosea

4. Which of the following statements is NOT true? A. Polygamy was practiced by the early Israelites.

B. Adultery gravely offends the dignity of marriage.

C. In the West, the priest is the minister of the Rite of Marriage.

D. When a baptized man and a baptized woman celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony, they should do so in church during Mass.

5. The essential rite of the Sacrament of Matrimony is what? A. The couple’s consent and vows to each other

B. The exchange of rings

C. The priest’s blessing over the couple

D. The signing of papers in the presence of a priest and two witnesses

Handout 9-C

**Journal Reflection:**

How Adultery Hurts

*Answer the following questions thoughtfully.*

1. How are each of the following people hurt by adultery?

• The spouse who cheats

• The spouse who is cheated on

• The “other” person

• The children of the spouses

• The friends of the married couple

2. Why is adultery a sin against God and the Church?

3. Do you think there should ever be a double standard when it comes to rights within marriage? Should hus- band and wife truly be equal in all things? Explain.

Handout 9-D

**Bible Activity: Scripture Readings for the Marriage Rite**

*Read each of the Scripture readings for the First Reading, Responsorial Psalm, etc. Choose one reading that comes closest to your understanding of Christian marriage for each type. Be prepared to share the reasons for your choices with the class.*

**First Reading (Choose 1)**

Genesis 1:26–26, 41a *God created male and female in his image*. Genesis 2:16–24 *Two will become one flesh*.

Tobit 7:9–10, 11–15 *May God join you together and bless you*. Tobit 8:5–10 *May we grow old together*.

Song of Songs 2:8–10, 14, 16a; 8:6–7a *Love is as strong as death*. Jeremiah 31:31–32a, 33–34a *I will make a new covenant with you*.

**Responsorial Psalm (Choose 1)**

Psalms 33:12, 18, 20–21, 22 *The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord*. Psalms 34:2–3, 4–5, 6–7, 8–9 *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord*. Psalms103:1–2, 8, 13, 17–18a *The Lord is kind and merciful*.

Psalms 112:1–2, 3–4, 5–7a, 7bc–8, 9 *Happy are those who do what the Lord commands*. Psalms 145:1–2, 3–4, 9–10, 11–12ab, 12c–14a. *The Lord is compassionate to all his creatures*.

**Second Reading (Choose 1)**

Romans 8:31b–35, 37–39 *Nothing will separate us from the love of Christ*.

1 Corinthians 12:31; 13–8a *We must do all with love*. Colossians 3:12–17 *Above all, have love*.

1 John 3:18–24 *Let your love be real and active*.

1 John 4:7–12 *God is love*.

**Gospel (Choose 1)**

Matthew 5:1–12 *Blessed are they whose reward is great in heaven*. Matthew 5:13–16 *You are to be light to others*.

Matthew 21:24–25 *Build your house on rock, not sand*. Matthew 19:3–6 *Let no man divide what God has joined*.

Matthew 22:35–40 *Love of God and love of neighbor are the greatest commandments*. Mark 10:6–9 *Be no longer two, but one body*.

John 2:1–11 *Jesus changes water into wine at a wedding*. John 15:9–12 *Dwell in my love*.

John 15:12–16 *Love one another*.

John 17:20–23 *May they be completely one*.

Handout 9-E

**Small-Group Activity: Working toward Fidelity**

*Make a list of ten practical ways that you and other teenagers can begin to cultivate the attribute of fidelity in your own lives now.*

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

Handout 9-F

**Research Activity:**

Holy Couples

A number of canonized saints in the Church were married men and women. Sometimes only one member of the married couple has been canonized, but in other cases, both the man and the woman have been canonized together. These saints are good role models and show how marriage in Christ makes growth in holiness possible.

*Here is a list of married saints (couples are listed together). Using the Internet or books from the library, research one of these saints or couples. Then answer the questions below.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Anne and Joachim | Margaret of Scotland | Thomas More | Joseph and Mary |
| Perpetua | Felicity | Stephen of Hungary | Isidore and Maria |
| Bridget of Sweden  Monica | Peter the Apostle  Elizabeth of Portugal | Elizabeth of Hungary  Louis and Zélie Martin | Edward the Confessor  Frances of Rome |
| Elizabeth Ann Seton |  |  |  |

Saint(s) chosen:

1. Summary of life:

2. How were they holy?

3. What can Christian couples today learn from this saint or saints?