

A teal-colored rectangular banner with a semi-transparent image of a man and a woman in profile, facing each other. The text "Real Marriage" is overlaid in white.

# Real Marriage

**Study Questions - Week 1**  
**“The Purpose of Marriage”**

1. If you haven't already, listen to the sermon from Week 1 of our Real Marriage series. What stood out to you the most from the sermon? What questions came to mind as you listened?
  2. Pastor Andrew shared stats on the culture's view of marriage and relationships. Review them below and share thoughts on these stats. Which ones shock you the most?
    - 53% of Canadians feel marriage is not necessary
    - 88% of Canadians believe living together before marriage is fine
    - 60% of couples who live together will not go on to get married
    - 19% of couples rarely have sex together
    - 37% of Canadians approve of polyamorous relationships
    - 36% of Canadians approve the decriminalization of polygamy
    - 41% of marriages in Canada end in divorce
  3. What view of marriage was modelled to you growing up? The cultural view of marriage not being that important or the misinterpreted biblical view of the man being dominant and the woman being oppressed and obedient? How did that shape your view of marriage growing up?
  4. Do you think most people view marriage as a contract or a covenant? Why is that distinction so important?
  5. Has there been seasons in your own marriage where the "feelings" of love and joy have diminished? How did you get through those seasons?
  6. Pastor Andrew spoke about 2 grand purposes for marriage: sanctification and reflecting the gospel. Are there other biblical purposes for marriage that you can think of?
  7. If you are married, have you seen those 2 purposes evident in your own marriage? Why or why not? How has your spouse helped in the sanctification process? Do you resist that or welcome it?
  8. Philippians 2:1-8 is a great passage that helps us battle selfishness in our marriage. Read that passage together. What stands out to you? Does this seem like an impossible standard to live up to?
  9. In your own marriage, what are steps you can take to count your spouse as more significant than yourself? Be practical! Think of a few ways you can begin to do this. (if you are doing these study questions with your spouse, share in what ways you appreciate being served)
- Spend some time in prayer together. God doesn't call us to just "try harder" on our own. We need the Holy Spirit and the gospel to transform our hearts. If need be, spend time confessing sin together and asking God to change your heart.*