



FROM THIS DAY FORWARD

Part 5: Never Give Up

Big Idea

“Blood is thicker than water.” We consider blood relationships to be the strongest ones we have. And just like the Church is the Bride of Christ, marriage is a blood relationship because God has made the two people become one flesh. This means marriage is a covenant, not a contract. Contracts are based on mutual distrust. Covenants are based on mutual commitment to surrendering rights, assuming responsibility, and keeping the interest of the other in mind. A covenant is a commitment to never give up. A covenant makes the choice to love!

...[Jesus] took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.” – Luke 22:20

Discussion Questions

- Prioritizing our relationships is key to never giving up. What does it look like to prioritize a relationship? What are some practical ways that you can prioritize your relationship from this day forward?
- Love is not a feeling - it is a choice. Does this truth change your perception of how things “should be” in your relationship? What steps can you take to help you make the choice to love during difficult times?
- Read Malachi 2:16 and discuss what you can do to better protect your spouse (and other relationships).
- Commitment means we are willing to be unhappy while we work things out. Do your emotions drive your behavior during disagreements? What can you do to curb your emotional response so that you can work toward resolution?

Prayer Focus

Pray for everyone in the group to continue to seek God, fight fair, have fun, stay pure, and never give up. Pray specifically for everyone to put on love—to make the choice to love every day, no matter what—and to never give up!

Next Step

Challenge your group to honestly assess their relationships and devise plans to take them to the next level. Engage accountability partners to maintain the integrity of the process.

Leader Tip

Develop an assistant by identifying a group member with the gifting to serve in that capacity. Use this opportunity to build on their strengths and raise up a future leader.