CHRIST CENTERED COMMUNITY (C3) HOMEWORK

“Edifying the body by embracing the grace of the Spirit to live out the love of the Son in fellowship that glorifies the Father”

WARM UP

1. What is one thing about you that no one in your C3 group (besides your spouse) knows?

DIGGING DEEPER

2. A pastor once said, "When culture clashes with Christ, Christ always champions." According to that quote and Acts 4:18-20, what do we do when the authority of Christ conflicts with what society says?

3. Read 1 Cor 7:32-35. Write down any observations you make about how singles serve and glorify God.

4. Read the short case study about Monique and Alex:

Monique is the modern strong wife. She lives in corporate America, shoulders the responsibility for the family, and is proud not to be living in the “comfortable concentration camp” of stay-at-home motherhood. As a point of principle, she is reluctant to do anything she considers domestic, and quick to share her opinion for hours on end, while her husband sits expressionless beside her. She balks at the thought of being a helpmate, chafes at the idea of submission. Her favorite Bible verse is Galatians 3:28. With six words (“there is no male and female”), she has become a ferocious advocate of "homofunctional marriage," consisting of two different sexes functioning identically.

Meanwhile, Alex, Monique's gentle husband, lives his life with few complaints and subdued passions. He happily embraces the notion that "more hands make for light work," and thanks God that Monique is willing to shoulder the primary responsibilities in the home. He doesn't expect to have major sway in family decisions — and according to him, he is better off for it. He has decided that when he lets his wife steer, he never gets blamed for ending up in a ditch. He finds the passenger seat very comfortable. More reclining. Less sacrifice and accountability. More opportunity for pleasant pastimes. In fact, he even gets praised by other "Christians" for “laying down his life” and ambitions for his wife. He is appalled by the idea of masculinity that domineers, belittles, and abuses. So he has taken nicely to that emasculinity which occasions less blood and more praise. He lives to defer. It takes less energy.

a) How would our society view Monique?

b) Does Monique model Biblical womanhood? Why or why not?

c) If you were asked to disciple Monique on how to be a godly woman, how would you approach that?

d) What Bible texts would you use specifically and how?

e) On the other hand, how would society view Alex?

f) Does Alex model Biblical manhood? Why or why not?

g) If you were asked to disciple Alex on how to be a godly man, how would you approach that?

h) What Bible texts would you use specifically and how?

I) Eph 5:32 says marriage is a symbol, what kind of picture does Monique and Alex's marriage paint to those observing?

5. Based on what we've talked about the past two weeks, how has God convicted you in the areas of manhood and womanhood?