****C3 Questions

*C3 exists to glorify God and edify the body by knowing and delighting in the Father through the joy and love of the Spirit and unity in the Son.*

Red Text = Tips and guides to help use the questions

Blue Text = Sample Answers

Green Text = Additional questions to ask

Got Milk?

If marriage is a barometer (measure) of the health of a community and its relationship to God, how do marriages today reflect the state of our families? Churches? Nation?

* Some Divorce Statistics -
  + <https://gillespieshields.com/20-divorce-facts-for-2020/>
  + <https://www.focusonthefamily.com/marriage/what-is-the-actual-divorce-rate/>
* 38% of people who attend church regularly have been divorced
* 60% of people who rarely or never attend church have been divorced

What are some reasons why so many Christians are having trouble in their marriages (covenant relationships)?

Where’s the Beef?

How would you use passages in Scripture (such as Mal 2:10-16, Neh 13:23-28, 2 Cor 6:14-7:1, Eph 5:6-11) to help counsel a friend or family member who is a Christian yet is pursuing marriage with an unbeliever?

* The Bible repeatedly stresses the dangers of being in a covenant relationship with an unbeliever. Solomon is perhaps the best example of this. A union that does not center on Christ is at best unwise, and at worse will draw a person away from the Living God.
* What should you say to someone who is already in a marriage with an unbeliever? (1 Cor 7:12-16)

Read Matt 19:1-9. Jesus gives some of the clearest teaching in scripture on marriage and divorce in this passage. (cf Mark 10:1-16/Gen 2:18-24/Matt 5:32/1 Cor 7:10-11) What does Jesus teach about marriage?

* Jesus teaches that marriage...
  + Is between one man and one woman
  + Is a creation ordinance God established from the beginning
  + Binds two people into one
  + Is an independent relationship from parents and other family
  + Is a union that God Himself establishes

What does He teach about divorce?

* Jesus teaches that divorce...
  + Was only permitted because of the hardness (sinfulness) of the Israelites hearts
  + Is a violation of God's design from the beginning
  + Is only permitted when ongoing adultery is being committed by one partner
  + Leads to adultery in remarriage if the divorce was illegitimate

Considering how much God values marriage, how should this shape your own marriage (or future marriage)? And how should it shape our approach to divorce?

Are You Satisfied?

Read Eph 5:22-33 and Rev 19:6-10. Marriage is an image of Christ and His bride - the church. How does (or should) what we've learned about marriage help you love Christ and His bride more?