

# HOME GROUPS

Discussion Questions for *How to Meet Your Mate's Needs*

*Special Guest: Dale Ebel*

Week of January 10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Warm Up** How does our culture treat marriage? In what ways do you find this affecting you?

- After listening to the message and reading through the notes, what did you hear the Holy Spirit saying to you?
- According to Willard F. Harley in the book *His Needs, Her Needs* there are 10 basic needs of men and women. See Sunday's handout for a list of these needs. Have you identified your top needs as well as your spouses top needs? As a group, share one of your essential needs and how your mate has met that need, as well as what it has done to improve your relationship.
- Read **1 Peter 4:7,8** and **Proverbs 24:3** aloud as a group. How might these verses apply to relationships in general and marriage in particular? Be specific.
- See the section in the handout on *Love Enhancers* and *Love Destroyers*. How do love enhancers infuse you and how do love destroyers discourage you?
- From Sunday's handout, discuss the **Deposits** you are most likely to give to your spouse as well as the **Withdrawals** you're inclined to carry out.
- In general there are 5 styles of conflict resolution: *yielding*, *withdrawing*, *compromising*, *resolving*, and *winning*. Do you think each of these could be helpful at different times in a dating or marriage relationship? Why or why not? What are the benefits and pitfalls of each?
- Pastor Dale mentioned on Sunday that, "all the rationalizations in the world cannot overcome the fact that *independent decisions* ruin marriages". Do you agree? Why or why not? Discuss ways that you think independent decision making can be overcome?

**Wrap Up:** Relationships take intentionality and hard work. Pray for a renewed mind and heart to see the most important relationships in your life through God's eyes. Trust Him. Depend upon Him. Through His grace, believe that He has good things in store for your marriage and future.