

Water of Life Community Church

MARRIAGE

THE SILENCE OF ADAM – GUEST SPEAKER, GARY THOMAS

WEEK 1

GENESIS 3:6; ACTS 13:22; 2 CHRONICLES 29:9; LUKE 1:17;
EPHESIANS 6:4; HEBREWS 12:9; 1 TIMOTHY 2:2

PARTICIPANT GUIDE

ICE BREAKER

PRAYER

WORSHIP

INTRODUCTION

Genesis 3:6 recounts the temptation in the Garden of Eden. Gary Thomas speaks to men who have found themselves like Adam, silent when they needed to speak up. Adam's silence is seen throughout the scriptures from the rebellion of Cain to the impatience of Moses, from the weakness of Peter to our own everyday failures to speak up when it counts. What makes us so passive?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. READ GENESIS 3:6

- a. What do you think is the curse of Adam's silence? How does it play out today?
- b. Larry Crabb is quoted as saying, "...Since Adam every man has had a natural inclination to remain silent when he should speak." Have you known this to be true in your own life?

2. READ ACTS 13:22

- a. God said of David, "I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do." In what ways can we become more like David?
- b. Read James 4:17: Gary Thomas said that living a Christ-like life is more than just not doing what we are not supposed to do. What does this verse say about sin?

3. READ 2 CHRONICLES 29:9 AND LUKE 1:17

- a. According to 2 Chronicles, what happens when fathers abandon their children and wives? Why?
- b. According to Luke, what happens when the hearts of parents and children are turned back to each other?

3. READ EPHESIANS 6:4 AND HEBREWS 12:9

- a. From this verse in Ephesians, whose responsibility is it to discipline the children?
 - b. What does Hebrews say about fathers who discipline their children? Does this verse encourage you to let go of passivity?
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PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME

- In this week's message, we learned that husbands and fathers have a crucial role in the family and in the church. Think about ways we can spur each other on to step up and speak up in the face of difficult situations. Use the scriptures we discussed to encourage each other and to pray for fathers and husbands, wives and mothers, and all of us as we influence those who look up to us. Speaking up should be led by the Spirit. It isn't easy, but it is essential.
 - How would you encourage or what advice would you give someone who feels trapped in being a spectator rather than engaging?
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GOING DEEPER/WEEKLY CHALLENGE

REFLECT

- Prayerfully consider a situation in the past when you needed to speak up but didn't and why.

RESPOND

- This week, when you recognize it's your responsibility to do so, speak the truth in love (love is patient, love is kind...).

Also ... Subscribe to our e-devotionals by texting "edevotional" to 67076; or go to wolgroups.com and click on the eDevotional button for daily testimonies relating to this week's theme.

MEMORY VERSE

2 Timothy 2:2 New International Version (NIV)

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.

NOTES