

SCRIPTURE COMPANIONS:

MARRIED COUPLES IN THE BIBLE

Week Three: August 14-20, 2022

Theme: Service

Noah and His Wife, Elkanah and Hannah, Aquila and Priscilla

Opening Prayer:

Gal 5:13

For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Person 1:

Lord and Father, Thank You that you promise us that where two or three are gathered you are in the midst. Lord, we welcome You amongst us today and celebrate the gift of life that you have lavished upon each of us. We ask that You would open our ears so that we may hear your voice.

Person 2:

Open our minds so that we may receive your eternal wisdom. Open our spirits so that we may know Your leading and guidance. And open our hearts so that we may receive Your wonderful love. We ask this in the glorious name of Jesus. Amen.

Gospel:

John 13:14-15

"If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do."

Discussion Questions:

Noah was the only righteous man in the entire world of wickedness and evil. He, his (unnamed) wife and children were the only people to survive the flood that wiped out the rest of humanity. Elkanah and Hannah were the parents of Samuel. Samuel, you may remember, is the man who anointed Saul and David as kings of Israel (1Sam10:9-27). This couple also suffered from infertility – after a time of prayer, trust and faith, they too were rewarded with a son. The couple showed their gratitude by giving Samuel back to God to serve in His holy Temple. Aquila and Priscilla were referred to as “fellow workers in Christ”, by St. Paul (Rom 16:3). They were tentmakers by trade as well as fervent disciples. They welcomed St. Paul into their home in Rome, and were active in their evangelization ministry as a couple.

1. Are you looking for opportunities to share Christ wherever you go, as Paul did? Do those who spend time with you become infected with your love for Christ? How can you improve this area of your life?
2. What spiritual contribution are you making to the lives of others? What else are you doing to share God’s word with others?
3. If you and your mate were considering working together in a business, what problems would you foresee arising? What could you do now to avoid those problems?
4. How can you demonstrate more fully the equality you share in Christ as husband and wife? How will you turn this love and devotion into the service of Christ and others? Would you consider sharing your service ideas with others in and outside of your community of faith?
5. How could you use your home more effectively to serve the Lord?

For this Week:

Invite another couple (or more) to coffee or a walk and brainstorm how you might effectively serve your community. It doesn’t have to be an enormous feat, it can be as simple as asking to and praying for others, sitting with someone who attends church alone, checking in on and praying with an elderly neighbor or parishioner, bring a home-bound friend or acquaintance a meal.

Closing Prayer:

Joshua 22:5

“[But] be very careful to keep the commandment and the law that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you: to love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, to keep his commands, to hold fast to him and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.”