

## **Study Guide**

### **Love and Baggage #3**

#### **Let's Get Started**

1. Are you good at keeping secrets?
2. Read Genesis 2:24-25, 3:7-8-“From the moment we started sinning, we started keeping secrets.” What did you think about that statement?

#### **Let's Dig In**

1. Marriage has one, eternal, purpose and two, temporal, purposes-can you remember what they are?
2. How is this idea of marriage and its purposes different than what you have thought or heard?
3. Genesis 1:27-28 and Malachi 2:15 establish God's purpose of family. Pastor Jack listed three truths that arise from this purpose: Sex is reserved for marriage, marriage is between a man and a woman, we value, celebrate, and protect children. Any of those new? Did you see new connections? Which ones are most controversial?
4. Genesis 2:24-25 establishes the purpose of friendship or intimacy. If you had to describe the friendship of marriage, what words would you use?
5. How does keeping secrets damage friendship in a marriage? Is it ever appropriate to keep secrets from the person you are married to?
6. Pastor Jack listed the areas he has witnessed the most “secret keeping” take place in marriages-finance, friendships, addictions, trauma, dreams and aspirations, and frustrations. Did any of these surprise you? Which have you seen the most of?
7. The two motivations for secret keeping are selfishness and shame-talk about those.
8. The two antidotes to secrecy are courage and commitment-describe why they are necessary and how they help you break free from secret keeping.

#### **Let's Go Deeper**

1. The Biola Center for Marriage and Relationships- <https://cmr.biola.edu>