

**Individual  
and Group  
Discussion  
Guide**



**DRIVE BY**

**Marriage**

**Joy in the Home**

**Todd Friel**  
*With* **Rick Thomas**

**33 Marriage Lessons...  
before you get to work every day.**

**Talk the Walk Series**

## Drive By Marriage Individual and Group Discussion Guide

Talk the Walk Series

This discussion guide is a companion to the 33-part Drive By Marriage audio series available at [www.WretchedRadio.com](http://www.WretchedRadio.com).

By Roger and Becky Patterson

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### A Message from Todd

Way to go!

You are doing something very unusual and you should be applauded!

So many people struggle in their marriages and they either resolve to just plug their nose and live with it, or they get divorced.

You are not doing that and I want to congratulate you.

Here is the great news—no matter how good or bad your marriage is at the moment, it can be better...much better.

What you are about to do is life changing. Notice, I didn't say this was going to change your spouse. By studying "Drive By Marriage," YOU will be changed.

The questions you will be asked in this study guide are not sappy, silly, or trite. They are probing, profound, and soul-searching. And in that process, your mind will be transformed and your marriage will improve...even if your spouse's behavior does not.

Let me encourage you to hang in there! What you are about to learn actually works. Why? Because this is God's plan for your marriage and your home.

Once again, WAY TO GO! Hope is on the way!

Todd Friel

### Introduction

Welcome to the discussion guide for Drive By Marriage. This guide has been created to help you get the most out of the Drive By Marriage audio lectures. The guide is set up with two components to accompany each lecture.

### Group Discussion

The Group Discussion sheets are intended to be used in a small group or Sunday school setting and include general questions to guide a discussion after listening to the lecture. Within the questions, you will find Scripture passages mentioned in the lecture and many of the ideas presented in written form. The questions are intended to help promote transparency within the group in order to foster an environment where wisdom can be shared and true Gospel-centered hope can be discussed. Use the Scripture passages mentioned in the questions to get the Bible open and the words of God injected into the discussion. Check every idea against Scripture.

At the beginning of each set of questions, there are four topics that frame the lecture. Use the space there to take notes during the lecture and encourage the other group members to do so, as well.

### Individual Questions

The individual questions get a bit more personal. Using Scripture passages and other key ideas from the lectures, the questions will ask you to examine your hearts and actions. As with any study, the amount of time and effort put into the individual questions will determine the outcome and the growth seen by the individual. In many cases, you will be sitting down with your spouse and family members and asking them to give you honest feedback about your actions and attitudes. The Christian life is meant to be lived in community and fellowship, and these questions are intended to promote that in a unique way for each individual.

### Plan of Attack

Using this guide in a small group setting, follow the basic plan below, adjusting to your specific situation:

1. Start each session with a review about the individual questions from the previous lesson. Ask for examples of encouragement or about things that need to be clarified from the questions or Scripture passages. (5–10 minutes)
2. Listen to the audio lecture. (15 minutes).
3. Use the Group Discussion questions to help one another think through the issues presented. Make sure to maintain a gracious environment where people can share their thoughts. Always read the Scripture passages indicated and make sure that all of the ideas discussed are grounded in Scripture, not simply feelings and experiences. (30 minutes)
4. Have each group member complete the individual questions at some point during the week and return prepared to discuss the ideas at the next meeting.
5. Close in prayer focusing on specific aspects of the lesson to guide the time.

If you are doing this as an individual exercise, you can follow the same basic plan, but don't rush through the study. Take time to listen to each lecture and then use the Individual Study questions (and the Group Discussion questions) to focus your attention on understanding the ideas from the lecture. Let the ideas work into your heart before moving on to the next lecture.

Remember that change is a process, not an event, and that every Christian grows at different rates. The truths that are drawn out in these lectures are founded in the Gospel and the person of Jesus Christ. It is God's will that every believer be conformed more and more into the image of Christ (Romans 8:28–34). As you interact in Gospel-centered fellowship, you will have opportunities to encourage others and to be encouraged yourself.

Whatever condition your marriage is in, there is hope for growth and change. That hope comes from knowing what Jesus has done for us, how He lived, and knowing that He has given us His Spirit to live a life that is pleasing to God. May your time in fellowship around God's Word make you more like Christ as you seek to love God and love others.

For more resources on marriage from a truly biblical perspective, see the appendix that follows the study questions on page 69.

### Lecture 1: Introduction

The Gospel

Chief of Sinners

Repentance and Faith

Pride

### Group Discussion

1. Why is it important to understand the bad news of sin before you can understand the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ?
2. Read Acts 20:21–24. The Apostle Paul is describing the good news he was preaching as he traveled. What two things was Paul testifying of and who was the message from?
3. What is the typical attitude toward sin in Western culture?
4. In what way are the Gospel and a regenerated heart necessary for transformation to take place in relationships?
5. In 1 Timothy 1:15, the Apostle Paul calls himself the chief of sinners. Do you think he deserved this title? Who might be a better candidate for that title today?
6. Read Matthew 7:3–5. How do the sins that you have committed against God compare to the insults or slights you might be receiving from those around you (spouse, kids, coworkers, neighbors, etc.) in a typical day?
7. How might your pride cause you to think that you deserve to be treated better by those around you? Was this Christ's attitude while on the earth (Philippians 2:1–11)?

### Individual Study—Introduction

1. The Gospel is a very personal topic. It is meant for individuals to respond to in an individual way. How have you responded to the sacrificial death of Jesus to pay the penalty of the sins you have committed against God?
2. If you have rejected the truths of the gospel, who could you speak to in order to better understand why every person is in need of Jesus Christ as their Savior?
3. If you have received Christ's gift of salvation, what evidence of the transforming power of the Gospel do you see in your life?
4. When anyone repents to God and places their faith in Jesus, they receive the presence of the Holy Spirit and their sinful heart is renewed. If you have not been born again, why will these lectures be useless to you? Read 1 Corinthians 2:12–16 to better understand this idea.
5. 2 Corinthians 5:16–21 speaks of different types of people. Which type of person are you—an ambassador seeking to reconcile others to Christ or one who needs to be reconciled to a holy God whom you have sinned against? Describe an example.