1. Nehemiah’s Reaction to Intermarriage with Unbelievers
   a) What problem existed during the time of Nehemiah in spite of the promises made to the LORD? Nehemiah 13:23-24, 28 (see Nehemiah 10:30)
   b) What are your thoughts about Nehemiah’s treatment of those who intermarried with unbelievers? Nehemiah 13:25
   c) What illustration does Nehemiah provide of the negative consequences of intermarrying with unbelievers? Nehemiah 13:26-27
   d) How does Nehemiah’s conduct reflect the teaching of Jesus in Matthew 5:43-45 and Matthew 7:12?
   e) While we might not approve of every aspect of Nehemiah’s conduct, why was he correct in reproving those who intermarried with unbelievers? Deuteronomy 7:1-3

2. Ezra’s Reaction to Intermarriage with Unbelievers
   a) Ezra 9:1-2 What problem was reported to Ezra the priest?
   b) How did Ezra respond to the report about intermarriage with unbelievers? Ezra 9:3-4, 10:5-6
   c) Why is it vitally important to seek divine guidance when dealing with challenging issues?
   d) Why does the LORD hold leaders (Ezra 10:18-44) to a high standard in terms of their personal conduct? 1 Peter 5:1-4
   e) How did Ezra the priest address the issue of intermarriage with unbelievers? Ezra 10:10-12
   f) How can we avoid repeating the same mistakes our forefathers made?

3. More Inspired Counsel about marriage
   a) Name some other Bible characters besides Solomon whose lives were detrimentally affected by marriage with unbelievers.
   b) Name Bible characters who married a spouse from another nation after that individual had become a follower of the one true God. (Salmon & Rahab, Boaz & Ruth, etc.)
   c) What is the meaning of 2 Corinthians 6:14?
   d) How should a married individual who becomes a Christian relate to an unbelieving spouse? 1 Corinthians 7:12-16
   e) Share a testimony of being part of a family where there was a combination of believers and unbelievers. What lessons did you learn from your experience?
   f) What counsel would you give to a friend who is contemplating marriage to “a wonderful person” who is not a follower of Jesus?