

Contra Mundum
The Godly Husband
Ephesians 5:25-33
June 21, 2015

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her... **-Ephesians 5:25**

I. LOVE LIKE CHRIST LOVES

- A husband must love his wife with Christ as his example. A sacrificial love with these purposes in mind:
 1. To help her towards sanctification
 2. To cleanse her by washing with the word
 3. To present her to Christ without spot or wrinkle

II. NOURISH & CHERISH AS CHRIST DOES

- Husbands love their wives as they love themselves not selfishly, but because we are the body of Christ, and Christ cares for his body (Eph. 1:22; 2:14-15; 4:25).
- Vs. 31– Paul quotes this oft-quoted verse from Scripture concerning the origin of marriage and the family unit to introduce us to a profound mystery (Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:5; Mark 10:8; 1 Cor. 6:16).
- Human marriage reflects the original – Christ and his church – not vice versa.

III. PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS

- Never forget how much is at stake with marriage and family... Satan doesn't (Gen. 3; 4:6).
- A house divided against itself cannot stand (Mark 10:1-12).
- Christian husbands must learn to lead in:
 - *Shaping their own spiritual walk
 - *Shaping the goals for the family
 - *Shaping the family's devotions
 - *Shaping a loving family environment
- Love and respect goes a long way toward sanctification in the marriage. Marriages grow just like our walk with Christ grows.

KNOW: The way husbands care for their wives should be a reflection of how Christ cares for the church. Husbands should be givers of love in profound ways that will shape the spiritual destinies of their wives and children.

DO: Love others as a reflection of Christ's love for us.

Suggested Reading:

This Momentary Marriage, by John Piper
Solving Marriage Problems, by Jay Adams
The Meaning of Marriage, by Timothy Keller
Strengthening Your Marriage, by Wayne Mack
Love That Lasts: When Marriage Meets Grace, by Gary & Betsy Ricucci

**Questions/Discovery Points for
Life Groups/Families**

Please read Ephesians 5:25-33

1. What are some of the main excuses made today for not loving a wife? What are the biblical responses?
2. Biblically, the husband presents the wife to Christ. What about single women who remain single their whole lives, who presents them?
3. We say that marriage relationships and their parts: submission, male leadership, love, respect, etc., are rooted in creation. What do we mean by that? If it is true, how important are marriages?
4. What do we say to brothers/sisters in Christ who have experienced marriage failure(s)? What hope is there for them?
5. How hard is it for a woman to respect a sacrificial, Christ-like husband who loves them deeply? What does such a husband do in the rare cases when he is not respected?
6. How does a single man fulfill his calling to lead out in male/female relationships?
7. Read 1 Peter 4:8. How does this apply to marriages?