

God's New People: Christ-Centered Relationships—Marriage

Wednesday, May 6, 2020 — Ephesians Series—MS Msg 10 — Pastor Jason Hill

Ephesians 5:22-33

English Standard Version (ESV)

²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ³⁰ because we are members of his body. ³¹ "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. ³³ However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

REVIEW:

- 1) After describing the believers position before God, Paul outlines new standards which God expects of his new society, the church, in its unity and purity.
- 2) The basic principle of Christian submissiveness should be on display in the church and in social relationships.
- 3) Paul addresses three social relationships (husband and wife, children and parents, slaves and masters) showing how they are transformed when controlled by obedience to Christ.

When we relate to each other and with those outside of the body, we do so as new people who have been made alive with Christ. The gospel demands and transforms our interactions with each other. The first relationship it transforms is the bedrock of society...Marriage.

Marriage is a theme that runs throughout the Bible.

Genesis 2:21-24

²¹ So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²² And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³ Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." ²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become **one flesh**.

God uses the union in marriage to mirror His relationship with His people.

His relationship is special, exclusive, and covenanted with us.

Israel is like an unfaithful bride to God her husband (Is. 54:5; Hosea 3:1)

Jesus is the groom of God's people, the bride (John 3:29)

His relationship will one day lead to the intended reality which is Christ and his church forever

Christ will present the church in splendor, without blemish, and holy (Eph. 5:27)

God said there will be a celebration in glory (Rev. 19:7, 21:1-3)

The relationship between a husband and wife should be a picture of the gospel.

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I. The Role of the Wife in a Biblical marriage (v 22-24) “submit to your own husbands”

Submit—actively choosing to put herself under the leadership of her husband and to be subordinate in a circumstance or relationship

Submission is rooted in your relationship with the Lord. *“as to the Lord”*

Submission flourishes from Biblical Headship

Submission is following God’s designed order. *“as Christ is the head of the church”*

Submission means intelligent, wise, happy support.

Submission is seen in total trust in God. *“as the church submits to Christ”*

Submission is totally trusting that God will lead your husband to do right.

II. The Role of the Husband in a Biblical marriage (v 25-33) “love your wives”

Love—a response to and an expression of the love of God in Christ.

Love is puts others before yourself. *“as Christ loved the church”*

It is sacrificial. *“gave Himself up”*

It is setting her apart. *“sanctify her”*

It is spending time in the word. *“washing of water of the Word.”*

It is focused on aiding them to become all they can be. *“present...in splendor”*

Love is caring. *“as their own bodies”*

It involves provision. *“nourishes”*....It involves handling with care. *“cherishes”*

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

1. What are the similarities between Colossians 3:18-4:1 and this passage? What are some differences?
2. Seeing the wife’s biblical role, why do you think it is important to be careful in whom you marry? (For the male and the female)
3. Seeing the husband’s biblical role, why do you think it is important to be picky in whom you marry? (For the male and the female)
4. How is the love talked about here different than the usual way the word “love” is used?