

There's No Place Like Home

"The Wizard of Odd"

5.23.10 www.stonecreekwired.com

Ephesians 5:21-33 NIV

What does a healthy marriage, a Christ-centered marriage look like?

- _____ **to one another.**

"Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything." V22-24

"Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." V21

Greek "submit" = "a voluntary relinquishing or surrendering of one's own rights or will."

*"Submission does not mean that the husband's word is absolute. Only Christ's word is absolute. Submission does not mean surrendering thought. Submission is the divine calling of a wife to honor and affirm her husband's leadership and help carry it through according to her gifts." -
John Piper*

The wife is called to a higher level of submission than the husband but, be certain of this, both are called to submit.

- _____ **for one another.**

"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless." V 25-27

"Headship is not a right to command and control...it's the responsibility to love like Christ; to

lay down your life for your wife in servant leadership.”- John Piper

The husband is called to a higher level of sacrifice than the wife, but be certain of this, both are called to sacrifice.

- _____ **one another.**

“In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church—for we are members of his body.” V 28-30

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” V 31

“This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.” V 32

“However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.” V 33

The goal of marriage isn't just to *survive*—it is to *thrive*...so that your marriage can symbolize how Christ loved the church.

Resources: [1] www.realrelationships.com
[2] Invest \$10 for CD's from previous family series.

Next Steps: [1] Commit to whole series
[2] Sign up for 5 Love Languages