EPHESIANS 5:21-22

THE ROLE OF THE HUSBAND & FATHER LEADING HIS HOME



### MARRIAGE IS DESIGNED AND DEFINED BY GOD

#### Genesis 2:18-25

- Marriage came into existence by the design of the Creator
- "It is not good for man to be alone"
- If God designed marriage, then we should go to the Designer for directions on how marriage is to work
- The purpose of marriage comes from God

#### **Having Children**

- Genesis 1:27–28
- Biblical marriages are to bring children into the world and bring children up under the teaching and training of the Lord
- Malachi 2:13–16
- Psalm 127:3–5
- Children are a reward from the Lord
- Children are to be future warriors for the cause of Christ
- Don't let Satan disarm the weapons of war the Lord has given you

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#### **Displaying Christ and the church**

- The Lord designed marriage to be a witness to the world and an encouragement to His church
- With Jesus Christ and His Church, there is a connection of loving devotion and meaningful direction
- Jesus doesn't abandon His church, and the church doesn't abandon Christ when things get tough

#### **Biblical Oneness**

- Genesis 2:21–25
- Finding a spouse who is committed to living under and promoting the authority of Jesus Christ in marriage, family, church, and witness is a good thing
- Proverbs 18:22
- God designed marriage to display Biblical oneness
- Biblical oneness should be the focus and pursuit of husbands and wives

- What is the responsibility of the husband as the head of his home?
- God expects the man to lead his wife and children by promoting the rule of Christ in all things
- <sup>21</sup> submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ. <sup>22</sup> Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.
- Biblical headship requires Christian husbands to walk in love
- <sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives,
- Biblical love is not shaped by the world's definition of love
- Feeling enraptured and euphoric is not what a man's love for his wife is all about
- A husband's Christ-honoring love for his wife is more than emotion
- It is not less than emotion, but it is far more than emotion

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.

- What is Biblical love?
  - The example of true love is found in Jesus Christ
  - Jesus chose the church and chose to love her as His own
  - Jesus doesn't love the church because she's beautiful and desirable
  - Jesus doesn't love the church because of all the church can do for Him
  - The Lord loved His people Israel by choosing to love them

- Deuteronomy 7:6–10
- The Lord Jesus loves the church because He chose to love the church, and He is faithful, covenant-keeping, and steadfast in His love
- Husband, you love your wife because you choose to love her, and empowered by gospel grace you are faithful, covenant-keeping, and steadfast in your love for her
  - Under the rule and reign of Jesus Christ, you choose your wife and that leads to doing God-honoring things for her and with her
  - Under the rule and reign of Christ, you choose your wife and that also leads to Godhonoring deepening feelings for her

- Men, this describes the kind of loving husband you are supposed to be by grace through faith
  - Men, your commitment must be to the will of God and promoting the rule of Jesus Christ in all of life
  - Choosing a wife indicates you've found a woman who is fit to help you with this task
    and she desires to help you with this task
  - Holy affection and devotion will develop and deepen over time
  - Biblical oneness matures as the husband leads his wife as they grow together in truth and righteousness
    - The man's headship leads the couple to become a holy family
    - The man's headship leads the family to mature in the context of teaching, fellowship, and accountability in a local church
    - A man's headship leads his family to impact society for Jesus

# QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- Men, what needs to change for you to become the husband and father the Lord intends for you to be?
- Women, what worldly influences need to be changed in your thinking to support a Biblical marriage and home?
- Unmarried people, how have these Biblical truths challenged you?

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