

Two Actions:

- The leaving behind: to forsake, depart from; active.
- The joining together: “be joined” *proskollaō* - to glue to, to cement, to cleave closely to; passive.

4. Summary (v.33)

Ephesians 5:33 “Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.”

- Husbands love their wives as themselves.
- Wives respect their husbands in their position of authority.
“respect” *phobos* – reverence for position or authority. Same word used for “fear” in v.21.

Point: biblical marriage is built on love and respect from the _____ of Christ and the church.

BLANKS: instituted, bond, submission, love, degree, example

Discussion Questions:

1. How would you describe our culture’s view of marriage? What are the main principles of biblical marriage? Do they contradict the world’s view of marriage? In what ways?
2. Read Ephesians 5:22-24. How does this passage go against the mindset of today? What is the calling of a wife in a marriage relationship and what does it look like?
3. Read Ephesians 5:25-30. What is the role of the husband in a marriage relationship? What does it look like? Why is it significant that Christ is our example? Would the world agree with this role?

During the week:

Bible Reading for next week’s lesson: Ephesians 5:22-33

Trek: memorize 4.2 and finish reading Jude and write summary

Journey: memorize 7.2 and keep reading Zephaniah

Alternate: memorize Isaiah 46:10-11

Dates To Remember:

- March 14 Skating at Logansport
- March 12 SNAC @Gray’s House

Series: Ephesians

Topic: Biblical Marriage

Text: Ephesians 5:22-33

Date: 2/28/2023

God’s Will in Three Human Relationships:

1. Marriage (5:22-33)
2. Parents and Children (6:1-4)
3. Slaves and Masters/Employers and Employees (6:5-9)

God’s Will for Marriage (5:22-33):

- 85% of American adults believe that couples cohabitating (living together) is acceptable.
- Less than half (45%) of American adults think marriage is more beneficial than cohabitation.
- It is now more common for people to cohabit than get married.
- 6-out-of-10 American adults say a cohabitating couple can raise kids as well as married adults

Cultural definition of marriage: a committed, but highly conditional legal relationship between two people who love each other reciprocally.

Biblical Marriage (Marriage God’s Way):

1. The Basis for Marriage (Genesis 1/Matthew 19)

A. God _____ marriage according to His perfect will.

Genesis 1:26–28 “Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth. God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Matthew 19:4–6 “And He answered and said, “Have you not read that He who created *them* from the beginning made them male and female, and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? “So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.”

Takeaways:

- Since God instituted marriage, it must conform to His will and blueprint for it.
- Marriage has an objective quality of goodness and concrete purpose.
- Gender has been given a central role in the dynamic and definition of marriage.

Biblical Marriage: the covenant _____ between a man and a woman (both equal in God's eyes) to be members of one another for life in every aspect according to God's design and structure.

2. Wives (v.22-24)

Ephesians 5:22 “Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord.”

v.22 literally: “Wives to your own husband, as to the Lord”

Why should wives submit to their husbands?

Eph. 5:23 “For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He himself being the Savior of the body.”

“head” – one who has authority and leadership

Observations from v.22-23:

- A wife submits to her husband as she submits to Christ.
- A wife only submits to her “own” husband, not every man.
- A wife willfully submits to her husband unlike the commanding response expected from kids to parents (6:1)

The Relationship of a Wife to Her Husband (v.24)

Ephesians 5:24 “But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.”

“subject” *hypotassō* – (military term) to place or arrange under; to subordinate; to rank under

Point: the central expression of the wife in the marriage relationship is _____ to the position of authority and leadership her husband possesses.

3. Husbands (v.25-32)

1. First Instruction (v.25-27)

Ephesians 5:25 “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her”

“just as” *kathos* – according to, in the manner that

Example: the sacrifice of Christ for the church.

- “loved” – to have deep affection or care for; refers to Christ's motivation behind the cross
- “gave up” – to deliver over, hand over; refers to Christ's action on the cross

Point: the husband's calling in marriage is to _____ sacrificially like Jesus did the church.

2. Second Instruction (v.28-32)

Ephesians 5:28 “So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself”

“ought to” *opheilō* - to owe, be indebted, to be bound, to be obligated to

Eph. 5:29 “for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it”

- “hated” *miseō* - to hate, regard with ill-will, to detest.
- “but” – contrast
- “nourish” – to provide what is needed for health/wellness.
- “cherish” – to treat with love and care.

Point: a husband must love his wife beyond the _____ he would love himself.

Eph. 5:29-30 “just as Christ also does the church, because we are members of His body”

“just as” – manner of or according to Christ

The Mystery of Marriage (v.31-32)

Ephesians 5:31–32 “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

