



July 25-26, 2009

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Wedlock or Deadlock

Ephesians 5:21-33

What WE need to know:

God calls us to mutual submission

What SHE needs to know:

A husband longs to be _____ by his wife.

- Give input respectfully when you disagree with his ideas
- Praise his good decisions; be gracious with his bad decisions
- Don't micro-manage him
- Talk about him with respect – especially in public

What HE needs to know:

A wife longs to be _____ by her husband.

- Speak words of affirmation and affection
- Make it a priority to spend time with her
- Touch her in non-sexual ways
- Don't look lustfully at other women

²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

²² Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ²³ 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. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. ²⁸ In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.

²⁹ After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church – ³⁰ for we are members of his body. ³¹ "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."

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

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

Spend some time each day reading, meditating on, studying, and applying Ephesians 5:21-33. Here are some resources that may help:

<http://parkerhill.wordpress.com> – weekend follow-up questions for you and your small group

Life Lessons: The Book of Ephesians by Max Lucado

Captivating by John & Stasi Eldredge – RansomedHeart.com

Wild at Heart by John Eldredge – RansomedHeart.com

Love and Respect by Emerson Eggerichs - loveandrespect.com

www.crosswalk.com

www.studylight.org
