
God Explains Marriage – Ephesians 5:22-33 (Part 1)

²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. ²⁴ Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in everything.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ So husbands ought to love their own 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 the Lord *does* the church. ³⁰ For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. ³¹ "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ³² This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

³³ Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife *see* that she respects *her* husband.

6 Preliminary Observations

1. ***My Marriage Role Is Based Upon My Gender***

- Roles are not chosen by us
- Roles are not interchangeable

2. ***My Marriage Role Is Commanded***

- My responsibility is not an option
- My responsibility is not a feeling

3. ***My Marriage Role Is Without Conditions***

- "When" is missing (not until he/she does this)
- "Unless" is missing (up until he/she does this)

4. ***My Marriage Role Focuses on My Actions Toward My Spouse***

- I am to be focused on what I am to be doing

5. ***My Marriage Role Assumes an Imperfect Spouse***

- Wife, your husband needs you to submit anyway
- Husband, your wife needs unconditional love anyway

6. ***My Marriage Role Is Built Upon a Spiritual Relationship***

- My role is based upon Christ & the Church
- My role is to broadcast the good news by example