



Domestic Disturbance: Spirit-filled Marriage

Ephesians 5: 22-33

The ultimate model for marriage is that of Christ and His bride, the Church. In order to truly live out the truth of this passage obediently, we must fully understand the “model” presented here.

In the scriptures, the Church is called the bride of Christ.
(*Revelation 19:7*)

I. Christ's _____ of His bride

Ephesians 5: 22-24 *Wives, submit to your husband's as to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, His body, of which He is the Savior. ²⁴Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.*

II. Christ's _____ for His bride

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

III. Christ's _____ of His bride

Ephesians 5:26-27 *...to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷and to present her to Himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.*

IV. Christ's _____ for His bride

Ephesians 5:28-31 *In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church— ³⁰for 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."*

V. The " _____ "

Ephesians 5:32 *This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.*

VI. So, what about husbands and wives?

Ephesians 5:33 *However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.*

Brother's Keeper Thought:

Share with your spiritual partner or small group one aspect of being the "bride of Christ" that is convicting to you.

Share one aspect that is comforting to you.

Bible Reading Plan

- ☐ Sunday: Jeremiah 32 ☐ Monday: Jeremiah 33
- ☐ Tuesday: Jeremiah 34 ☐ Wednesday: Jeremiah 35
- ☐ Thursday: Jeremiah 36 ☐ Friday: Jeremiah 37
- ☐ Saturday: Jeremiah 38 ☐ Sunday: Jeremiah 39

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Family Discussion Guide

Husbands and Wives, this guide is geared for you with a few questions for the whole family.

Monday, Ephesians 5:22-23

- Wives to Husbands: What could I do to show you that Biblical submission is important to me in our marriage?
- Husbands to Wives: Is there anything that you feel I could do that would make the truth of Biblical submission be more easily lived out in our marriage?
- If Christ is the head of the Church, and we, as Christians are part of the Church, how am I allowing God to be the head of me?

Tuesday, Ephesians 5:24-25

- How am I showing Christ that I am living my life in submission to Him and what areas do I need to forego my wants and desires in order to better submit to Christ's wants and desires for my life?
- Wives to Husbands: In what ways can I be a more submissive wife?
- Husbands to Wives: How can I show you more sacrificial, selfless love?

Wednesday, Ephesians 5:26-27

- What am I learning from God's Word and how is it changing me to be more like Christ?
- Husbands and Wives: Devise a plan of how you are going to weave Scripture into the life of your marriage and into the lives of your children and family.

Thursday, Ephesians 5:28-29

- Husbands to Wives: What are the ways in which you feel loved by me the most?
- Husbands and Wives: The opposite of hate is love and vs. 29 says the opposite of hate is "feed and care for" or another translation might say, "nourish and cherish" or "provide and protect". Think about these words for a few minutes and talk about how these active words are lived out in your marriage and then take a few minutes to figure out how they can be enhanced in your marriage.
- Check out 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 and again figure out how these aspects of Love are lived out in your marriage and in your family and what could be better.
- Take some time to discuss as a family how Christ loves the church.

Friday, Ephesians 5:30-31

- Read Romans 12:3-8 and discuss how you think God has equipped you to serve Him.
- Paul, in Ephesians, compares Christians as the body of Christ with the relationship between a husband and wife. Vs. 31 is probably the shortest description of marriage in all of the Bible. Concerning this verse, discuss these few issues.
 - How has the relationship between the husband and his parents changed since your marriage, and are there any more changes that might need to occur in order for your marriage to strengthen?
 - The term “one flesh” describes a multitude of things, so discuss these few:
 - Even though you have become one flesh physically, how can the sexual area of your relationship improve?
 - In this busy world we live in, how can you cultivate more “oneness” in your marriage?
 - How can you model to your children or to those around you that you are a “united” couple?

Saturday, Ephesians 5:32-33

- Paul says that the relationship between Christ and the Church is a mystery, so be encouraged that none of us will ever figure it out perfectly while on this earth. The same can be said about marriage. In what ways can you give your spouse grace in the areas where they most commonly fail?
- Husbands: based upon your daily actions, do you show more love for yourself or your wife? Does that need to change in any way?
- Wives: Are you showing your husband unconditional respect or is your respect based on his performance? Does that need to change in any way?