



**Husbands, love your wives as Christ loved the CHURCH.**

- Christ's love is \_\_\_\_\_ . . .
- Christ's love is \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_.
- Christ's love seeks the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the other.

**Husbands, love your wives as your own \_\_\_\_\_.**

- In marriage, husbands and wives are united as \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_: Just as we give our bodies what they need, so husbands are to give our wives what they need.
- \_\_\_\_\_: Just as we care for and treasure our own bodies, so husbands are to care for and treasure our wives.

**TAKE A NEXT STEP**

- \_\_\_\_\_: Find and execute a practical way to lay down your life for your wife this week.
- \_\_\_\_\_: Find a time this week to connect with your wife and ask her to share one new way you can nourish and cherish her in the days ahead.
- \_\_\_\_\_: Pray for the strengthening of marriages here at Grace Central Coast.

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*Every time you and I open the Bible, there's an unspoken question hanging in the air: "Do I BELIEVE this book is true and am I going to DO what it says? Nowhere is that more challenging than when it comes to what the Bible teaches about marriage . . .*

**A FEW COMMENTS BEFORE WE JUMP IN . . .**

1. The Gospel is meant to impact every area of our lives. Marriage is a setting for Gospel \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_ and Gospel living.
2. Biblical marriage is long and hard, beautiful and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. According to the Bible, men and women possess equal \_\_\_\_\_ before God and in Christ, but distinctive, complimentary roles in marriage and the family.
4. All Christians are called to \_\_\_\_\_ to one another, which includes husbands and wives.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is submission and submission is \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The fulfilling of our Biblical roles as husbands and wives is not \_\_\_\_\_ on the other filling their role.
7. One size does not fit all when it comes to the \_\_\_\_\_ of these Biblical principles in different marriages.



**Husbands**  
Ephesians 5:21-33  
Sunday, October 18, 2020

*Growth Groups are the glue that holds our church together, the way we find and follow Jesus together. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the time to jump in at [gracecentralcoast.org](http://gracecentralcoast.org).*

*This year, our aim is to see our Growth Groups embody our 3-fold identity as followers of Jesus: Family, Servant, and Missionary. To that end, we're framing our Growth Group Interaction Guide to help groups move in that direction.*

*During the COVID-19 crisis our groups are meeting live and virtually using Zoom and other online platforms.*

**CONNECT** *(ask these questions to check-in with your group)*

If you are married, husbands, share one thing you appreciate about our wife.

If you are unmarried, share one thing you appreciate about a marriage you value and esteem.

**DISCUSS** *(use some of these questions to process God's word together)*

1. Read Ephesians 5:22-33. How did you "come under" God's Word in the text and message this week? How did God speak to you or challenge you?
2. Every marriage is long and hard, beautiful and mysterious, but we don't talk often enough in the church about the challenges of marriage. Why is that and how can we begin to do that? What might be the value and blessing if we could learn to do that?

3. Is this Ephesians passage a trigger passage for you like it is for so many? Share why if you can.
4. How does Ephesians 5:21 frame this whole marriage passage as an umbrella command?
5. "Love is submission and submission is love." What does this mean? How is it true? Do you buy it? Does it help you understand this passage?
6. HUSBAND BREAK OUT QUESTION & PRAYER: Husbands, gather for some time away from your wives and share which NEXT STEP you are going to take and how you need prayer in that. Pray for one another, for your wives and for your marriages.
7. WIFE BREAKOUT QUESTION & PRAYER: Wives, gather for some time away from your husbands to thank God for them, pray for them and pray for your marriages.

**WRITE** *(use this space to write notes, prayer requests, etc.)*

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