



REVEALED

The Mystery of Christ in Ephesians

Ephesians 5:21-33

August 16th, 2015

HOW TO BANKRUPT A MARRIAGE

IN A FEW THOUSAND STEPS

And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ... – Ephesians 5:21

Mutual Investment: HONOR

Mutual Withdrawal: JUDGMENT

Mutual Deficit: INSECURITY

THE BEST MARRIAGE COUNSELORS EVER

³⁰ And we are members of his body. ³¹ As the Scriptures say, “A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.” ³² This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. ³³ So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband. – Ephesians 5:30-33 (NLT)

OUR EXAMPLES: CHRIST & THE CHURCH

Role: Wife Towards Husband

²² For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ²³ For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. ²⁴ As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything. – Ephesians 5:22-24 (NLT)

- **CHRIST PRINCIPLE: TRUST**

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. – Proverbs 3:5 (NLT)

- **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY: ESTEEM YOUR HUSBAND**

- **YOUR RIGHT: UNCONDITIONAL LOVE**

So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself... –vs. 33

Role: Husband Towards Wife

²⁵ For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her ²⁶ to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. ²⁷ He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. ²⁸ In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself. ²⁹ No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church.

– Ephesians 5:25-29 (NLT)

- **CHRIST PRINCIPLE: CARE**

Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. – 1 Peter 5:7 (NLT)

- **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY: CHERISH YOUR WIFE**

- **YOUR RIGHT: UNCONDITIONAL RESPECT**

...and the wife must respect her husband. –vs. 33

I Will Live The Mystery by...

- Memorizing [Ephesians 5:33](#)
- Making marriage investments of honor instead of withdrawals of judgment.
- Contending for healthy marriages among my family and friends.
- Embracing God's redeeming love for the first time.

WALK THE TALK

A Growth Group Guide

1. How healthy was your parents' marriage? Explain the reasons for your answer.
2. Who is the healthiest married couple you've ever known? Share about what made them a great match.
3. Read Matthew 18:21-22. Explain how this relates to marriage. Do you think it is possible to walk in forgiveness and move forward in a marriage when negative behavior has not changed in one's spouse? Discuss.
4. Discuss the concepts of "unconditional love" and "unconditional respect." Do you agree that women and men have a right to these needs being met regardless of their performance?
5. Discuss the benefits and difficulties of a gender-neutral society. How can Paul's description of husbands as "head" and wives' responsibility to "submit" fit within such a society?
6. Describe how you think a husband should "care" for his wife. What does this look like on a day-to-day basis in a home and a relationship?