Opposites Attract!

Each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband. - Ephesians 5:33 (NIV)

No one else so completely sold himself to what was evil in the LORD's sight as Ahab did <u>under the influence of his</u> <u>wife Jezebel</u>. -1 Kings 21:25 (NLT)

COMMON PROBLEMS

1. Represents The Husband.

Ahab said to Naboth, "Let me have your vineyard to use for a <u>vegetable garden</u>, since it is close to my palace. In exchange I will give you a better vineyard or, if you prefer, I will pay you whatever it is worth." But Naboth replied, "The LORD forbid that I should give you the inheritance of my fathers." So Ahab went home, sullen and angry because Naboth the Jezreelite had said, "I will not give you the inheritance of my fathers." He lay on his bed <u>sulking</u> and refused to eat. - 1 Kings 21:2-4 (NIV)

2. Represents The Wife.

His wife Jezebel came in and asked him, "Why are you so sullen? Why won't you eat?" He answered her, "Because I said to Naboth the Jezreelite, 'Sell me your vineyard; or if you prefer, I will give you another vineyard in its place.' But he said, 'I will not give you my vineyard." Jezebel his wife said, "Is this how you act as king over Israel? Get up and eat! Cheer up. <u>I'll get you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite</u>." - 1 Kings 21:5-7 (NIV)

A. Belittles With ______.

"Death and life are in the power of our words." - Proverbs 18:21 (NIV)

B. Takes _____.

"A virtuous wife <u>transforms</u> her husband into an honored king. But the wife who disgraces her husband <u>weakens</u> the strength of his identity." - **Proverbs 12:4 (TPT)**

THE HUSBAND'S CALL TO LEAD

A._____. B._____. C.____.

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. - **Ephesians 5:23 (NIV)**

God Will Hold The ______ Accountable.

As soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned to death, she said to Ahab, "Get up and take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite that he refused to sell you. He is no longer alive, but dead." When Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, he got up and went down to take possession of Naboth's vineyard. Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite: "Go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who rules in Samaria. He is now in Naboth's vineyard, where he has gone to take possession of it. Say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: Have you not murdered a man and seized his property?' Then say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: In the place where dogs licked up Naboth's blood, dogs will lick up your blood—yes, yours!'" - 1 Kings 21:15-19 (NIV)

FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Share your experiences with passivity. How have you seen it weaken a relationship?
- What kinds of controlling behaviors are damaging your relationships? If this is something you struggle with, what might be the source of this tendency?

Part 2

- What changes do you need to make to step into the right role God created you to fill as a man or woman of God?
- What did God speak to you in this message? Share it with your group.
- You will never have the marriage you desire without giving God control. How can you begin to pray this week to allow God that access? Pray for one another. If you're married, hold the hand of your spouse and pray together: "Help us make you our ONE."