

NOTES: Ephesians | Christian Marriage
January 28-29 2023 | Compelled Church, Nate Elarton

“Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called,” (Ephesians 4:1, NASB95)

Model of Marriage

“Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord.” (Ephesians 5:22, NASB95)

The word in Greek **ὑποτάσσω** (hypotasso) Voluntary Submission

- That wives can be devalued by the husband, spoken down to, and/or dismissing feelings, opinions, thoughts, and views.
- It is not God’s will that wives must stay in an abusive relationship (Under no circumstance should wives stay in a relationship where there is abuse to her or children, biological, or step.)
- Paul is not teaching that our wife’s wisdom, preferences, and voice are ignored or not considered.

To the Husband (men),

Proverbs 18.12 *““He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the LORD.” (Proverbs 18:22, NASB95)*

1. We are the head of the wife and Christ is the head of the church (order, not value)

Head does not mean ruler, but Source. We are the source of protection, provider. It does not mean superiority to the wife. This is not absolute control. This is Jesus, servant, leadership.

2. We are to love our wives as Christ loved the church.

How do you love your wife? Most men don’t know, it was not modeled to us.

You kill your wives love with criticism, implying inadequacy.

You kill your wife’s when you look at the body not the person.

When you focus on sex and on sensitivity

You ignore hurt and don’t pursue healing. Hurts happen in every marriage. Insensitivity, resentments, control, irresponsibility, busyness, no kindness or empathy, recycling hurts, and withholding love.

- We give security by providing
- We give security and show our masculinity by care for our families
- We give security by listening
- We show love by the way we talk with our wives
- We show trust by sharing-honesty, and openness, feelings, and thoughts (HER)
- We give love by serving
- We give care with affection
- We show love by being the safest person on earth to our wives.
- We love our wives by not looking at other women. They must trust and be secure in our love (porn, movies, work, texting, flirting)
 - It is a sacrament of my dedication, I am Christ’s, I am Wendy’s
- We give leadership by convictions and example (we serve God, live holy, moral, you live for God.)
- We show our love by being attuned to her needs (time, rest, break, back up, help) like Jesus

Men This is a tall order. It takes intentional help from God. It may take therapy, counseling, and help from other men. But you do this. Don't neglect your God-given mandate to love your wife.

3. We are to give our life to our wives as Christ gave Himself to the church.

- When we marry our life is not our own. We are first a servant to Christ, then to our wives.
- Men who live selfish, distance themselves from their headship.

4. We then sanctify, and cleanse our wives, thus our families.

5. We love our wife like we love our own bodies (we put our bodies first so much).

6. We are to leave (metaphorically) our mom and dad and be joined with our wife.

For the Marriage

Secular marriage says, make money, be happy, have sex and don't fight too much. If you can't do that with the person you have, find someone new.

Christian Marriage is a sign and wonder of Jesus from Heaven Our Culture does not encourage us to pursue healthy marriages.

The Mystery of Marriage

"FOR THIS REASON, A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH. This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church. Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband." (Ephesians 5:31–33, NASB95)

Christian Marriage is a sign and wonder. A picture of something bigger than us.

- Of God's Love – give, receive, forgive
- Of Christ power to change
- Of The fruit of the Spirit in Action

Christian Marriage Advice

1. It is the personification of the love of God
2. It is prophetic to God, the church, and heaven
3. Marriage must be our first ambition
4. Break the cycle of bad and broken relationships that was handed down to you
5. Make Passion a Central part of your marriage
6. Keep short accounts meaning forgive? All marriage experts agree that forgiveness is a key to growing marriage
7. Remember the 5 intimacy killers
Criticism, defensiveness, contempt, stonewalling, sin
8. Pray for your marriage and your spouse daily (or pray for one and your children's)