

## **Living in Relationships: Husbands and Wives**

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**Big Idea:** Paul projects a vision for a distinctly Christian marriage: Husbands are called to love their wives in the way that Christ loved the church, and wives are called to recognize and follow the leadership their husbands provide.

- **Look carefully then how you walk (live), not as unwise but as wise... (5:15-17)**
- **But be filled with the Spirit... (5:18)**
  - ... by submitting to one another (5:21)
    - and, specifically, wives to their husbands (5:22)
- **5:22-24** — Wives...
  
- **5:25-27** — Husbands...
  
- **5:28-32** — Husbands...
  
- **5:33** — in conclusion:
  
- **Takeaways:**

## **GRACE GROUP Discussion Questions**

Ephesians 5:21-33 (week of Jan 19, 2020)

**Spend some time catching up and talking story.**

**Spend some time in the text — Read Ephesians 5:18-33 together.**

**“But be filled with the Spirit... (by) submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.” (Ephesians 5:18-21)**

**Review (Eph 4:1-5:21):**

- What description of the believers walk (manner of life) has challenged you most and why?
- Read Ephesians 5:15-21. For review, describe the life that is filled with the Spirit.
- Why do you think that thanksgiving is emphasized in this passage?
- Look closely at Ephesians 5:21. What one word describes the attitude we are to have toward one another, and why do you think “in the fear/reverence of Christ” should motivate us to live this way among one another?

**Husbands and Wives (Eph 5:21-33):**

- Describe a time in your life when you had to make a choice to follow Christ’s example (see Philippians 2:5-8) in submission?
  - How did your attitude affect those around you?
  - Was it hard or easy? What was the end result?
- Why do you think the world hates the word/idea of submission?
- What is the world’s philosophy regarding marriage? How is it different from God’s design we see in Scripture?
- Read Ephesians 2:22-24. What admonition is given to the wife? Whom is she ultimately submitting to?
- According to these verses, to whom is the wife being compared? To whom is the husband being compared?
- How do these comparisons help you understand the different roles of the husband and wife?
- In everything we are called to do in Scripture, we are ultimately submitting to the Lord Jesus Christ. Based upon all that you have learned in Ephesians, what should the primary motivation be for that submission?

**Spend some time sharing and praying together.**

- Pray for each other. Pray for the unity of our church family.
- Pray for our “walks” — in unity, in wisdom, filled with the Spirit, submitting to one another out of reverence to Christ.