

"A Profound Mystery"

- Opening Announcements
- Opening Prayer

Q: What's it like to be "under authority"? Is that a good thing or a bad thing?

Q: How does the world see being "under authority"?

Table Time....

READ: Ephesians 5:22-33 "Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ³⁰ because we are members of his body. ³¹ "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. ³³ However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband."

Q: What does the word "submit" mean? (Hint: it's a compound word made up of "sub" and "mission").

Q: According to verse 23, what's the "picture" that the structure of husband and wife supposed to "look like"?

Q: In verse 24, what's the assumption that would make sense for the "wife to submit in everything to their husbands"?

Q: What if the husband is not submitted to Christ? Does the wife "have to" follow him into sin or rebellion?

Q: According to verse 25, what's the command to the husband? What's the standard, the model, the picture?

Sunday, May 21, 2023 Bible Study: Ephesians 5:22-33 "A Profound Mystery" 2

Q: In verse 28, how does loving his wife connect to loving himself? (Hint: verse 29)

Q: In verse 31, this is a quote from Genesis 2, what does it mean?

Q: According to verse 32, scripture says that marriage is a "profound mystery". Why?

Q: According to verse 33, what are each to do for the other? Why is this hard?

Big Group Debrief....

Let's touch on the earlier text in order to re-frame and set the stage for what we just read about....

READ: Ephesians 5:17-20 "Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ."

Q: According to verses 17-18, what are we to do and why?

Q: How does the Bible characterize NOT understanding the will of the Lord in verse 17?

Q: According to verse 18, scripture teaches us to not get drunk because that is "debauchery"! What IS "debauchery"?

Q: Why is doing 18-21 so important?

Q: According to verse 21, what are we ALL to be doing?

Now...go back to the first page and re-read verses 22-25 after reading verse 21.

POINT: Scripture teaches us that "submission" isn't ONLY for the ladies! It's for ALL believers! Why is submission God's "place", "position", "attitude" towards us?