



**Sunday October 09, 2016**  
**Ephesians 5:22-33 to 6:1-9 : As Unto The Lord**

Today we will cover Ephesians 5:22-33, 6:1-9

Lets read this passage through first and then we will study it together.

Paul has just gone through telling us to be imitators of God (5:1), to love as Christ loved (5:2) and to walk filled with the Spirit (5:18) and to submit ourselves to one another (5:21). And now he begins to show us how we have to live out our earthly relationships.

Who we are in Christ, the life we live in Christ, the life we live as new creation in Christ - should come to bear on all our earthly relationships: between spouses, between parents and children, between employers and employees.

**For Wives**

**Ephesians 5:22** Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

**Ephesians 5:23** For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.

**Ephesians 5:24** Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

As we see in this passage wives are to submit (5:22) and respect (5:33) their husbands.

**5:22** Wives submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord, meaning as unto the Lord. Your submission to your husband is in done as in submission to the Lord. You do it to honor the Lord when submitting to your husband.

However, keep in mind that you if your husband is demanding you to do something that is not aligned to proper submission to the Lord, example: engaging in cheating at work, etc...then you are not obligated to do so.

**5:23** The reason the wife is called to submit to the husband is due to the governmental authority in the family placed on the husband. A parallel is drawn to Christ being the head of the Church, and He provides (salvation) what the Body (the Church) experiences. Similarly there is some measure of grace that comes upon the wife through her husband, which is received when the wife is rightly related to her husband.

**5:24** both in 5:22 and 5:24 Paul states "to your own" husbands. This is important for men to understand as well. As a husband to my wife, I do not have the same authority over another man's wife and hence I cannot expect some other woman to "submit" to me in the same manner as my own wife would.



**5:24** "in everything", once again to be understood as in everything as unto the Lord, and not in matters that would be sinful and unrighteous.

### **For Husbands**

**Ephesians 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

**Ephesians 5:26** that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

**Ephesians 5:27** that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

**Ephesians 5:28** So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

**Ephesians 5:29** For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.

**5:25** the standard God has set for us husbands.

**5:26-27** it is Christ who sanctifies (sets apart as special) and ministers (washes with the Word) so that he can present the Church to Himself the way He desires the Church to be (a glorious Church)

As a husband I need to set apart my wife as special and minister to her. What she becomes, would most often reflect both the way I have set her apart and ministered to her and also how well she has received what I have administered to her. When the husband and wife cooperate in this, the wife will become a "glorious" wife!

**5:28** love your wife as you would love your own self.

When a man struggles with his own self - when he is struggling with loving, accepting, feeling good about himself - he will find it very difficult to treat his wife right.

**5:29** Husband has to nourish and cherish his wife

nourish = to rear up to maturity, to nurture into full potential

cherish = to hold warmly, to hold dear to oneself

When a woman struggles with her own self - when she is struggling with her self-worth, struggling with loving, accepting, feeling good about herself - she will find it very difficult to receive what the husband seeks to pour into her, even when he wants to nourish and cherish her.

So really for a husband to be able to really love his own wife, and for a wife to be able to receive love, nourishing and cherishing from her husband - both have to be emotionally whole and emotionally rooted in Jesus Christ.

### **The Mystery of this Union**

**Ephesians 5:30** For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.

**Ephesians 5:31** "FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH."

**Ephesians 5:32** This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.



**Ephesians 5:33 Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.**

The Church is part of Christ's body - literally, part of His flesh and bones, Paul states. However, we cannot explain this. It is true, but it is a mystery. In a similar way, the husband and wife are one flesh. Here again, it is a mystery, we cannot explain it, but it is true. They are one.

Marriage was designed by God to be good - something of immense joy and blessing. However, marriage can be a big blessing or it can turn out to be a something that brings a life of pain and hurt.

Now it is true that every marriage will have its period and times of discomfort when the two people are learning to live with each other, adapt to each other, to situations and challenges that may come our way. But through these, we need to walk as we have been instructed : wife submits and respects her husband. The husband loves, nourishes, cherishes his wife.

Our uniqueness, our differences should only challenge us to grow together and to grow in God.

Marriage is a great "discipleship" tool. If marriage is done right, it can really help the two people to grow and mature into Christlikeness.

When a man hurts his wife, or when a wife hurts her husband, each one is hurting themselves.

### **For Children**

**Ephesians 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.**

**Ephesians 6:2 "HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER," which is the first commandment with promise:**

**Ephesians 6:3 "THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU AND YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH."**

Children obey and honor your parents.

Adults continue to honor your parents.

As we grow up and become adults and move on, we may not offer implicit obedience to everything, but we must continue to honor our parents.

There is a blessing in doing this - a good, blessed and long life, is what God has promised.

### **For Parents**

**Ephesians 6:4 And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.**

training = to nurture, tutoring

admonition = calling attention to, warning, rebuke

Parents are to train and nurture and direct their children in the Lord.



But do it without creating bitterness and resentment in them.

### **For Employees/Subordinates**

Ephesians 6:5 Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ;

Ephesians 6:6 not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart,

Ephesians 6:7 with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men,

Ephesians 6:8 knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free.

### **For Employers/Managers/Bosses**

Ephesians 6:9 And you, masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own Master also is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him.

In summary, all our relationships have to be lived out "as unto the Lord". We do it to Him, for Him and in order to honor Him.

Wives you submit and respect your husband, because you do it "as unto the Lord".

Husbands you love, nourish and cherish your wife, and you do it "as unto the Lord".

Children you obey and honor your parents, as unto the Lord.

Parents what you do for your children - you nurture and train your children - as unto the Lord.

We relate to and treat our employers and our subordinates as unto the Lord.

### **MINISTRY TIME**

Take time to pray and minister healing for relationships:

personal individual healing, husbands-wives, parents-children, employers-employees.

- ✓ call people to repent for wrong done to others
- ✓ call people to forgive and release the wrong others have done to them
- ✓ welcome the Holy Spirit to bring healing to hurts and wounds that people have experienced

### **Minister as the Spirit leads + Salvation Call**