

Ephesians 5:25-33

Walking in the Spirit – Husbands Part 1

George & Barbara Bush – No he would be President

A) True that part of why God brings two people together is **to use us in each others lives to help us become the people He wants us to be**

B)Part of the reason why God brings two people together – **You will be used to help mold and shape one another** –

1)God's goal – Transform us into the image of Christ

C)Your Spouse is part of that process –

Question: Does your spouse ever rub you the wrong way?

A)What is wrong with him/ what is wrong with her?

B)Have you ever thought – that the when your spouse rubs you the wrong way –

1)it is revealing a rough spot in your heart – God wants to deal with –

C)Revealing a rough spot that God wants to change!

D)Cup analogy –Earthquake –Tea/ coffee/ Red Bull/ Warm water....

1) Revealing what is in my heart that still needs changed

E)I thought I was over that!

I am convinced that is what God does in marriage – Brings two people together to complement each other

A)Not good Adam was alone – He needed a Help Mate – **Ezer Kenegdo a partner of comparable strength and power**

B)But not just compliment but also to be used as a catalyst for Change and transformation.

C)Before I got married – I thought I was one of the most patient, humble, servant minded men around

1)I served at church – had great friendships – a caring person

D)But I lived by myself!

1)Marriage revealed – I had a lot of pride, not as patient as I thought

2)and I served on my own terms – when I wanted to.

E)Not in the mood – Not show up – call in sick – I will delegate that responsibility to someone else

But I can't delegate the role of being a husband to my wife or a father to my kids! Steve – take Denise out – play with my kids?

A)Marriage and fatherhood revealed – Lord you still have a long way to go with me.

B)Process of growing is still going on after 33 yrs of marriage - We never arrive

D)So I am convinced that one of the reasons that God created marriage is to use us in each other's lives to make us more like Jesus

1)In Fact our passage here in Ephesians supports that idea.

Last week we looked at the Wife

A)Preliminary statements **V.18 Be continually being filled**

B)We need the Help of the Holy Spirit to fulfill these roles

C)**V.21 Mutual submission of both people** – first to Jesus and his word and then to each other

The Wife: Her role is to submit to the husband – We defined submission as

- To come alongside your husband in a supportive role that respects the responsibility that God has given him be the servant leader of the family.

A)The husband is the head of the wife in the same way that Jesus is the head of the Church – the savior of the Body

B)So God is painting this picture in marriage – that the relationship between the Husband and the wife – reflection – Jesus & the Church

C)IN that Picture – The Husband is in the role of Jesus – Not Jesus /

1) the wife is in the role of the Church

The role that the picture paints of Jesus – is not Ruling and Reigning Jesus – Rod of iron – after the 2nd coming

A)But Jesus the man – who served – sacrificed – who gave his life in order to save others

B)We respond to Jesus love as the Church – we love him because he first loved us

1)In a similar fashion – the wife responds to the love of her husband

C)Which is why I believe that the Husbands holds a greater degree of the weight and responsibility for the health in a marriage.

1)We are in the role of Jesus - / the wife is in the role of the Church responding to his love

Paul continues with this picture V.25

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 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.

Big Picture here: Jesus loves His Bride the Church, he died for his bride, and his goal is to sanctify her – set apart – cleanse her through His Word to one day present her as his glorious bride

A)The Point of V. 26-27 right that those verses are not telling the husband to do something –

B)They are descriptive of what Jesus has done for us

1)He gave of himself to redeem us cleanse us and ultimately will present us ... glorious church

C)The commission to the Husband is to Love his wife as Christ loved the Church and gave himself for her.

The Big idea in these verses is this:

A)The Husband who loves his wife the way that God instructs is actually partnering with Jesus in helping his wife become who Jesus wants her to be.

B)The contrast to that is this: a husband who is not loving his wife the way that God instructs can actually hinder the work that Christ is wanting to do in her life

C)Husbands love your wife as Christ loved the Church – that is our admonition

D)So the question is – how do we do that?

1)What is that supposed to look like?

Answer that question in Remainder of our time today consider the Loving headship of Jesus

A)He is our example of a servant leader-

B)Consider 5 traits that can be seen in the life of Jesus

1)I will admit this is hard stuff –But it is our target

C)As we go along – come to discover how the Lord is seeking to work in us men

1)To help us to love our wives in this way.

D)Single not married – they same principles can be applied in work place/ ministry / friendships - the Loving headship of Jesus

#1 Jesus has an upside down leadership model – Mark 9:35

A)His leadership model is different from how we view things today – Top down – serve the boss

B)Disciples arguing who would be the greatest – Sits a child in the midst says – **who ever desires to be first let him be the servant of all** -Mark 9:35

C)That is upside down! – First or great – servant of all –

1)You lead by serving – you lead by seeking to make others look better – come alongside them

Receive and treat others the way that you would a little child

A)Patient with kids – forgiving with kids –

B)Josiah during the kids presentation – Watching – awe – join in Front and center

1)No one was miffed -frustrated – that is so cute.

C)But imagine if I jumped up there – What is Rob doing –

1) such a jerk stealing this moment from the kids

C) So prideful – always has to be the center of attention

Jesus said – treat each other like – little kids

A) Grace, love, patience and a desire to serve and help each other

B) First – good leader – be the servant of all

1) Upside down leadership

#2 Jesus sacrificed his own comfort and authority for the needs of others – Philippians 2:5-9

⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient *to the point of death, even the death of the cross.* Philippians 2:5-9

Jesus saw our need of salvation as greater than his comfort and authority – dwelling in Heaven –

A) Sitting right hand of the father – Worshipped

B) He left all of that – So that we could be saved

1) Became a man – lived in poverty – no permanent home – place lay his head

C) So you and I could be saved from sins – become children of God

D) As Husbands we are called to sacrifice our own comfort for the needs of our family.

1) Study on Saturdays – kids small

John 15:13 – There is no greater life than this a man would lay down his life for his friends

A) As Husbands we are called to lay down our lives for our wife/ family

B) Sure I would take a bullet for them – I hope so – but that is not the picture

C) Picture is the daily sacrificing our comfort, for the needs of others because we love them

1) And We desire to see them become everything that God wants them to be

#3 Jesus came to serve – not to be served Matthew 20:28

A) John 13 The night he would be betrayed - Lowest servant – He washed their feet –

B) Dirty stinky feet

C) We fight this: We want to be served – hard day at work I want to be served.

1) Jesus put other first before himself –

D) Ever a time that Jesus deserved to be served – THAT NIGHT – DYING TOMMORROW

1) STEAK – WASH MY FEET – food massage – whole body

E) Nope – He washed feet! What he calls us to

1) You do to one another what I have done to you.

#4 Jesus was obedient to the Holy Spirit – Mark 1:12-13

A) After this high moment Baptism – The Holy Spirit leads Jesus out into the desert to be tempted by the Devil for 40 days – SERIOUS

B) No way: You just heard the Father say: **this is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased – lets get on with this**

C) Jesus whole life was about this: Sensitive to the voice of the Holy Spirit – helped him put others needs above my own

Part of being continually being filled with the Spirit – not just empowerment but sensitivity

A) Learning to hear the Holy Spirit's promptings

B) Sometimes I will be driving home – haven't spoken or even texted with Denise all day – have no idea what her day has been like

1) Sense the Holy Spirit saying – **Call Denise right now and tell her not to worry about Dinner – you will pick something up**

C) **I WILL CALL - Hey if you haven't already started dinner – (How about I stop and pick something up)**

1) Really? No way – day has been Crazy – I was starting to panic had no idea what I was going to make

D) Young guys listen up – Note how I framed the statement – If you haven't started dinner yet....

1) I didn't ask – Hey have you started dinner yet – Then she would get defensive – negative – you slacker/ failure

E) Jesus wants us to learn how to be sensitive to the voice of the Holy Spirit – that will make us sensitive to others

1) More you respond – the more clearly you will hear

Now I will admit I don't always get this right – there are times I sense the Holy Spirit – call Denise..... I don't

A) I don't want to stop – I am tired – I don't want to spend the money

B) Almost every time I don't respond - when I get home I wish I did – She is frantic wiped out –

1) Watches our 19 month grandson 3 days a week

C) Then it is too late: I see how wiped she is and I say let me go get something. – No – your home

1) Just watch the baby.....

D) Learning to listen – Jesus listened to and obeyed the voice of the Holy Spirit which made him sensitive to others

#5 Jesus was sensitive to the needs of His followers – Mark 6:31 Come away and rest a while

A) He knew when they needed a break – he knew when they needed some extra pouring into

B) Paul addresses this type of care in our text²⁸ So husbands ought to love their own 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 the Lord *does* the church.³⁰ For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.

C) This is an interesting analogy that Paul paints –

D) Husband love your wife as your own body! – He who loves his wife loves himself

1) She is a part of you

E) Paul says – **We don't hate our flesh** – We love our bodies – why we pamper our bodies – feed them – relax them –

1) Most of us are really good at self-care

Husband you need to nourish and cherish your wife like you nourish and cherish your own body

A) Like Jesus nourishes and cherishes the Church

B) Talk about Nourish and Cherish for a minute – two very descriptive words

C) Nourish – to care for, build up – idea of bringing something to maturity

1) Again furthering that idea – helping our wives become everything that Jesus desires that she would be

Nourish Spiritually her by helping her spend time with Jesus

A) Church – retreats – Help with Devotions –

B) When I fell in love with Denise – when of the things that attracted me to her was Jesus in her

1) Beautiful on the outside and the inside – and the inside inspired me.

C) Her time in the word with Jesus each day was a huge part of that – Radiated the Lord

D) After we had our first child Aaron – it started getting harder – morning time – he woke up early

1) Denise's love language is acts of service – She wanted to clean house – cook a good meal

E) Devo's were lacking – not seeing much of Jesus in her when I got home – Wreck

Babe – I don't care if the house is a wreck – when he naps you spend time with Jesus –

A) I will help you when I get home – Don't need a perfect house – but I do need a Jesus filled wife

B) Husbands you nourish your wife spiritually by helping her spend time with Jesus

C) Making a way for her to go to women's study

1) Go on women's retreat – making sure that happens

D) Some guys like such a big deal – kids for a weekend – worst attended Sunday –

1) Come on guys – we can be better than that

Nourish your wife Physically by helping her exercise

A) Walks or gym – not forced -not lose weight – but honey I know you feel better – go take a walk..

B) Nourish her emotionally –verbally affirming her remind her that you love her and appreciate her

1) Farmer – told her when I married her and if anything changes I will let her know. – Stupid

C) Women need that verbal affirmation – tell her you love her and appreciate her – not just having sex

1 Peter 3:7 Dwell with them in understanding

A) Lit. expression is to *dwell together according to knowledge*

B) That my friends is a lifelong project & challenge:

1) Learn to ask questions but we also need to be in tune to the voice of God's Spirit

See why we need the help of the Holy Spirit?

A) See why we need to grow in our sensitivity

B) Learn to communicate – ask questions

C) Learn her love language -

A man who is nourishing his wife –

A) She is going to respond in love and respect and support for her husband

B) A woman who is not being nourished –

1) she will learn to fend for herself and will be tempted to resent her husband instead of respect him

There was a time in our marriage happened

A) I was working a lot – really wrapped up in what I was doing – my responsibilities

B) Denise love language is acts of service – so she was willingly taking on most of the responsibility in the home

C) Even to the point of doing most of the yard work –

1) which she seemed to love or at least that was what I thought

D) I came home..... pulling weeds more aggressively than normal –

1) Something is wrong

E) I don't need you – I do everything around here

F) Nourish your wife – Partnership -

Cherish = **to use tender love and physical affection, to give warmth - love, comfort, protection and security.**

You Cherish things you Value!

A) If you Value your wife – Cherish her

B) You will do what you can to help her feel loved – appreciated

C) Protected – Women like Stability

1) Like order

D) Security

She is going to feel Cherished and protected

A) Steady Job – provider –

B) She is going to feel protected and secure in her relationship with you –

1) She is priority – comes before kids work ministry

C) She is going to feel protected and secure and valuable – sees you don't have a neck problem

1) Wandering eye

You can tell women who are being nourished and Cherished – countenance – carry themselves

A) Sense of dignity – they know they are loved
Confidence – husbands think I am beautiful

B) They are secure – not trying to get attention

C) And you can tell when a wife doesn't feel nourished and cherished – see it face

1) Countenance and the way that she carries herself

Husband love your wife as Christ loved the Church Gave himself for her

Love her as your own body – Nourish and Cherish her – Jesus does the Church

Interesting the Word Love used in this passage

**A)English – one word Love many things – Pizza/
Dog a team/ Wife – Hopefully distinction**

B)Greek four words for love

**C)Storge – Family love – not the word used in
marriage**

D)Eros – Sexual love – not the one used

**E)Phileo – Friendship love – not the one used – but it
is best when Husband and wife are best friends**

The Word that God uses is Agape -

**A)Agape – God’s love – a love that loves those who
are undeserving**

**B) Agape is a word that speaks of a love that springs from
the preciousness of the object loved.**

1) This is the love that God has for the world.

“For God so loved the world.

C)A Love that seeks the best – A love that gives

**D)This is where we are prone to say – But I am
not God – I am not JESUS – TRUE**

1) I can’t do this

**Cheer up Brothers good news for us - God’s love
has been poured into our hearts through the Holy
Spirit who has been given to us. Romans 5:5 ESV**

**God’s love – Agape – has been poured into me
through the Holy Spirit**

**A)The presence of the Holy Spirit in my heart –
this love has been and being poured into me**

**B)Poured into me – in order to be poured out of
me**

C)Ask the Lord what is that supposed to look like

Ephesians 5 is not a formula

**A)Here are 5 steps – no he says Husbands love
your wives**

**B)No two couples are the same – you need to talk
to each other – pray**

1)What do you need

C)Ask today: Do I nourish and Cherish you?

1)How can I do that better?