

Growth Group News
Get involved in Fall Fest—We need your help!

Family Matters: It Takes a Good Husband
Ephesians 5:25-33

INSTRUCTIONS: THESE QUESTIONS ARE INTENDED TO ENCOURAGE US TO THINK MORE DEEPLY ABOUT OUR FAITH IN VIEW OF THE SERMON. YOU MAY NOT GET TO EVERY QUESTION. ONE QUESTION MAY PROMPT OTHER FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS OR CAUSE A LARGER DISCUSSION. OUR PURPOSE ISN'T TO "DISCUSS THE SERMON" SO MUCH AS IT IS TO TAKE OUR CONSIDERATION OF THE PASSAGE DEEPER SO THAT WE CAN LIVE CHANGED LIVES.

Big Idea: A healthy marriage requires a good husband and wife team, and a good husband must be at least three things...

ICE BREAKER QUESTION

Have you seen the movie classic, *The Princess Bride*. And if you have, who is your favorite character and why?

ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS

Have you read the Bible more than two times this week?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. Marriage is complicated. People and their relationships are complex. Human beings sin—daily. This makes being a husband tough. That's why he has to be all three: a lover, a learner, and a leader. Read and discuss Ephesians 5:25 and 28. We see love manifested in two ways: a willingness to make big sacrifices for the wife and to make more subtle ("little" is the wrong word) sacrifices for the wife, to love in all things great and small. There are some who would argue that the requirement in verse 28 is the more difficult of the two. Why do you think people would say this?
2. 1 Peter 3:7, as we heard in the sermon, speaks about being a learner—living with one's wife "according to knowledge" or "in an understanding way." Can you make intelligent sacrifices for an individual you haven't taken the time to understand? Do you think that a wife is more apt to follow and respect her husband's leadership if she realizes that he loves her sacrificially and seeks to understand and meet her real needs? Can you effectively lead a person (or a group of people) whom you don't care about and understand?
3. Responsibility requires authority. Authority is to be exercised carefully and lovingly. How does lover, learner, and leader tie into this in Ephesians 5:25-33 and 1 Peter 3:7? Read Ephesians 5:23. What does this say about a husband's responsibility to lead? Read Ephesians 5:25—how different is the leadership of Christ and the Christian husband than that of the world? Read Mark 10:42-45.
4. Often people appeal to poor examples (i.e. non-Christian examples or mischaracterizations of what the Bible teaches) to decry or discredit the husband's role as leader in the home. When Christians resist this biblical teaching, how are they challenging the inspiration and sufficiency of God's Word?
5. Is it possible to be a perfect husband? Is it impossible to be a good husband? What does the Bible seem to indicate in Ephesians 5:25-33?