

# EPHESIANS

WHO I AM AND WHY IT MATTERS

The first three chapters of Ephesians are primarily theological, and the last three are more practical. This is certainly true of our passage today when it comes to marriage. Many people view the Bible's teaching on marriage as regressive – a throwback to “primitive” values, but it's the Word of God for our lives. As Christ followers, we must put a stake in the ground and decide to live according to God's Word – even when it's hard because we trust that God is good.

## Discussion Questions:

1. Looking back at your sermon notes, what encouraged or challenged you the most?

## Read Ephesians 5:22-24

2. What does it mean for a wife to submit to her husband? Is begrudging submission true submission? Why can submission be difficult? What does it require?
3. Does a wife's call to submit to her husband change if he's not a Christian? How can a wife's submission affect her husband? (See 1 Peter 3:1-2)
4. What does it mean that wives are to submit to their husbands “as to the Lord”? How is this calling connected to Ephesians 5:18, 21?

## Read Ephesians 5:25-30

5. What difference is there in viewing headship as responsibility versus authority? What can husbands learn about headship from Matthew 20:25-28?
6. What does it look like for a husband to love his wife as Christ loved the church? What does it require? Why can this be difficult? What insight do Colossians 3:19 and 1 Peter 3:7 provide for husbands?
7. What does it mean that a husband is to “nourish and cherish” his wife? What does this look like spiritually, emotionally, and physically? How is this calling connected to Ephesians 5:18?

## Read Ephesians 5:31-33

8. What do these final verses teach us about marriage? Where should our priorities lie in marriage? What's one personal takeaway from today's study you can focus on applying in your life this week?