

Wives and Husbands—Ephesians 5:22–33

Open It

1. What husband-and-wife team do you greatly admire?
2. In your view, what one quality or ability sustains a marriage relationship?

Ephesians 5:22–33 (ESV)

²²**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.**

Explore It

3. What service should wives render to the Lord? (5:22)
4. What is the relationship of the husband to the wife? (5:23)
5. How is the relationship of the church to Christ an example to wives? (5:24)
6. How are husbands commanded to love their wives? (5:25)
7. How did Christ prepare a bride for Himself? (5:26–27)
8. How should husbands love their wives? (5:28–30)
9. How does the bond between Christ and the church illustrate the love of a husband for his wife? (5:32)
10. In sum, what are the responsibilities of the husband and wife toward each other? (5:33)

Get It

11. Why would unselfishness be an essential part of a Christian marriage?
12. How does a healthy Christian marriage relationship honor the Lord?

Apply It

13. How can you treat your spouse with more respect and love this week?
14. How can you express your thankfulness to Christ today for making you His bride?