

*The Christian in the Culture*

“The Biblical Home: Husbands and Wives”

Ephesians 5:22-33

In this text, the instruction shifts from the Christian in the wider culture to the Christian in the home.

Wives and husbands. (*Next week kids and parents...*)

Why would this be positioned right here? And why would Peter also speak to the family in his letter to the persecuted church in 1 Peter 3:1-7? (*Turn there*)

Because the home is **essential**. *That* is why it's under attack.

Some attacks on biblical marriage:

- Homosexuality, gay marriage, polygamy. (Blatant, obvious attacks on the structure of marriage)
- Divorce seen as more and more acceptable
- Greater acceptance of pushing off marriage; Cohabiting. ‘Test driving’

How quickly a low view of marriage is adopted and taught!

Hebrews 13:4 “Let marriage be held in honor among all...”

The biblical home is the foundation for the rest of society

- The marriage is a picture of Christ and the Church
- It is THE setting where children are disciplined (raised, taught, disciplined...more on this next week)

\*\*Not only is marriage attacked as an institution, *the roles* within biblical marriage are under attack.

In this passage, Paul speaks of the God-ordained roles in marriage and how marriage is a picture of Christ and the church.

- Roles
  - Wives: Submit and respect.
  - Husbands: Lead and love.

*\*This has nothing to do with value; inferiority/superiority.*

*Everything to do with order and function*

\*Illustration: Car

- Wives
  - Submit to: Intentionally, willingly line up under; help
  - “As to the Lord”
    - 1) As (like) we submit to the Lord (an example)
      - Notice that ‘submit to’ and ‘be controlled by’ both speak to intentional, decisive action.  
It is a lining up under (Ex. The church; Jesus)
    - 2) As an act of submission to the Lord. Because we submit to Him.
- Husbands
  - Love your wives; lead; protect; provide; serve
  - “As Christ loved the church”
    - 1) Like Christ loved the church (an example)
      - (Ex. The Father; Christ)
    - 2) As an act of love and submission to Him. Because we submit to and love Him.

\*An attack on the roles has been from the very beginning, see Gen 3:16