

Sacred Marriage (Part 2):

What Marriage Teaches Us (5:21-33)

²¹ And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. ²² For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ²³ For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. ²⁴ As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything. ²⁵ For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her ²⁶ to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. ²⁷ He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. ²⁸ In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself. ²⁹ No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church. ³⁰ And we are members of his body. ³¹ As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one." ³² This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. ³³ So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

Summary of Last Week

- The Purpose of Marriage is to Make You Holy More than Happy.
- Marriage Exposes and Reveals the Inner You.
- Marriage is a Life of Practicing Repentance.

Marriage is a Picture
of Our Relationship
With Jesus

Submission

The Greek term used here is a military term that means to put oneself in rank under another person. It implies taking on the mindset of a servant, where instead of expecting others to cater to you and your needs, you look out for and seek to meet their needs.

- At its Core is the Issue of _____

Luke 9:23

Jesus said to them all, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me."

"A day must come in our lives, as definite as the day of our conversion, when we give up all right to ourselves and submit to the absolute Lordship of Jesus Christ..."

The reason for our hurt feelings lies in the fact that we are not amenable to being treated as our Lord was and are loathe to submit ourselves to the will and ordering of God. Were we to deliver our natural energies to death and capitulate entirely to the Lord, our soul, though so nervously sensitive, would rest in the Lord and not misunderstand Him."

-- Watchman Nee

"Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ..."

This means that our Mutual Submission in Marriage is an _____, a Place of _____ for Both Husband and Wife to Learn How to Give up the Control of One's Life to Jesus.

Mutually Submissive Means:

- *“For wives this (submission) means...”* **RESPECTING** YOUR HUSBAND (as you do Jesus)
- *“For husbands this (submission) means”* **LOVING** YOUR WIFE (as Jesus loves you)

(1) Taking the Focus Off Yourself and Onto Pleasing God by Serving Your Spouse

- **Rabbinic Story** about the Spot Where the Temple was Built
- **John 15:13** *“Greater love has no one than the one who lays down their life for their friends...”*

(2) Being Content, at Rest, and in Peace

- A submissive person isn't fighting for his/her rights demanding equal treatment.
- A submissive person doesn't have anything to prove.
- A submissive person recognizes the roles God has put in place.
- A submissive person trusts God to meet his or her needs*
 - A submissive husband doesn't make his wife submit.
 - A submissive wife doesn't emotionally manipulate or punish her husband when she doesn't get her way.
 - A submissive husband doesn't make decisions alone but diligently seeks his wife's wisdom, input, and blessing.
 - Neither a submissive husband or wife thinks in terms of **control** or **power**, or superior or inferior – but rather puts on the mindset Jesus – **empties themselves –servants of all.**
(Philippians 2:3-8; Matthew 23:11; Luke 22:26)

(3) Growing and Being Shaped in Godly Character

1 Peter 3:1-2

Wives must accept the authority of your husbands. Then, even if some refuse to obey the Good News, your godly lives will speak to them without any words. They will be won over ² by observing your pure and reverent lives.

Marriage is an INTERNSHIP, a Place of PRACTICE for Both Husband and Wife to Learn How to Give up the CONTROL of One's Life to Jesus.