

THE MINISTRY OF MARRIAGE
(Ephesians 5:22-33)

I. General Observations

- A. God addresses your RESPONSIBILITIES to MINISTER to your mate
- B. God does NOT address your “RIGHTS,” which would lead to
MANIPULATION of your mate

II. Particular Exhortations

- A. The ministry of the HOLY SPIRIT is STRENGTHENING
 - 1. INDWELLING at SALVATION (Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 12:13)
 - 2. FILLING for SERVICE (Eph. 5:18b)
- B. The ministry of the WIFE is SUBMITTING (Eph. 5:22-24)
 - 1. For the sake of ORDER (5:22-23)
 - a. It is not a question of VALUE (cf. Gal. 3:28)
 - b. It is not an issue of PERSONALITY
 - c. It is a matter of CHAIN OF COMMAND
 - 2. For the sake of OBEDIENCE (5:25)
 - a. REPRESENTS the church’s relationship to CHRIST
 - b. REINFORCES the home’s structure and STABILITY
- C. The ministry of the HUSBAND is SACRIFICING (Eph. 5:25-32)

1. The sacrifice of LOVING (5:25-30)
 - a. As her PROVIDER
 - b. As her PURIFIER
 - c. As her PROTECTOR
2. The sacrifice of LEAVING (5:31)
 - a. Requires LEAVING your PARENTS
 - b. Requires JOINING to your WIFE
3. The sacrifice of LEADING (5:32)
 - a. Shown through desire to FOLLOW the LORD
 - b. Shown in CONSISTENTLY living by the WORD
 - c. Shown by LOVING in EVERYTHING you do

III. Conclusions

- A. The husband's LEADERSHIP (Eph. 5:33a)
 1. MOTIVATED by LOVE for his wife
 2. CONDITIONED by his CHARACTER
 3. DEPENDENT upon the HOLY SPIRIT
- B. The wife's SUBORDINATION (Eph. 5:33b)
 1. MOTIVATED by RESPECT for her husband
 2. CONDITIONED by her CHARACTER
 3. DEPENDENT upon the HOLY SPIRIT