

Westwood Baptist Church *Grounded. Growing. Going.*



Worship Guide for June 19, 2022

Sermon Notes

Husbands, Love Your Wives as Christ Loved the Church

Ephesians 5:25-33 (pew Bible pgs. 978-979)

Biblical texts like Ephesians are a magnifying glass helping us more clearly see and better understand the culture around us, and the souls that live within that culture. “Darkness” is the word Paul uses to describe both the disposition and direction of this lost world. Those who are alienated from God are “*darkened in their understanding*” (4:18) and their lifestyle is characterized by “*unfruitful works of darkness*” (5:11). Ephesians helps us understand why the culture around us is the way it is.

The text we consider today is also a mirror that shows us all the flaws and blemishes in our character, the inconsistencies in our lifestyle and darkness of our hearts that are all too quickly revealed in marriage. And the Word we see is a scalpel, or sharp sword, that cuts “to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.” (Heb 4: 12-13) So, the words we see in Ephesians help us see and understand why we are the way we are.

Last week we were reminded that those who are in Christ have been “created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness”. We who “at one time were darkness” are now “light in the Lord”. (5:8) In our dark culture there is no better platform, no more odd and countercultural demonstration of this gospel light than Christian marriage. Christian marriage is a demonstration of the humble, submissive, self-sacrificing love of Christ. The Biblical model of marriage open up a window for the world to behold the beauty of the gospel. Today we look at the roles and responsibilities of husbands, who are called to “love your wives as Christ loved the church.”

A Clear Command: Love your wife (5:25a)

A Christ-like Pattern: Sacrificial, joy-filled love (5:25b)

A Christ-centered Goal: Her radiant holiness (5:26-27)

A Self-satisfying Goal: Love her as you love yourself (5:28-30)

A Timeless Mystery: Marriage, Christ and the Church (5:31-33)

Applications:

Weekly Discipleship Guide

Know

**What does God intend for me to know?
In your journal, use the following prompts to write
some truths that stood out from this week's message.**

I never knew...	I was reminded...	A question I still have...
I was challenged...	I was convicted...	A truth I could share...
I was encouraged to...		I need to dig deeper into...

Be (Consider)

**What does God's Word lead me to prayerfully consider?
In your journal, use the following questions to write
some prompts to use in praying through this week's passage.**

Is there a command to obey?	Am I convicted to confess any sin?
How am I compelled to exalt God?	Is there a sin to avoid?
Is there a promise to claim?	How do I need to rest in Jesus/the gospel?
Is there a principle to follow?	How can I pray for someone else?
Is there an example to follow?	What am I compelled to love or desire?

Do (Yield)

**How does God's Word call me to yield my life? In your journal, write
your answers and thoughts in response to the following questions.**

**Use this guide to help you internalize this week's message & to prepare for Life Group.*

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