

Introduction:

Christians are to model their marriages after the Gospel driven relationship of Christ and his Bride!

I. Sweet Submission (Eph. 5:22-24)

- A. Erroneous thinking
 - 1. Missing verb
 - 2. Mutual submission

- B. What submission actually means
 - 1. ὑποτάσσω (hypotasso)-**to cause to be in a submissive relationship, to subject, to subordinate**

- C. As to the Lord
 - 1. Description of the type of submission

 - 2. Reasonable service and worship.

- D. Buy why him?
 - 1. Why does he get to lead?
 - i. God has given him “Headship”

- E. “In everything” means EVERYTHING
 - 1. Just as the Church is submissive to Christ in every aspect of life, the wife is likewise submissive to her husband with one caveat
 - i. The husband cannot require his wife to sin
 - 2. In everything to which their authority justly extends itself, in everything lawful and consistent with duty to God.
 - 3. With this in mind, limitations are built in to protect the wife in the following verses about the husbands.

II. Sacrificial Love (Eph. 5:25-33)

- A. Commanded to love

1. ἀγαπᾶτε (agapate)-to have a warm regard for and interest in another, *cherish, have affection for, love*
2. This is not a passive worldly kind of love.
3. Greco-roman myth of love
4. Biblical Love is an act of the will accompanied by emotion that leads to action on behalf of its object. This love it is the one that lasts, it is stable, it is something that stays, it is something that will serve as a foundation on which a marriage can be built. Voddie Baucham
5. We have an example of what this love should look like

B. Following Christ's lead

1. Sacrificial
2. Sanctifying
3. One flesh

III. **Practical Applications (Eph. 5:25-33)**

- A. Marry in the Church
- B. The catalytic nature of our marriages

Questions for Discussion:

1. Why does the Biblical teaching of submission infuriate our society?
2. What does Paul give as the reason and model for the wife's submission?
3. What prevents a woman from experiencing abusive headship?
4. What does the love a husband is called to look like?
5. Are there limitations to a husband's sacrifices?