



EPHESIANS SERIES

# BUILT ON BIBLICAL BEDROCK

THE CHURCH THAT PLEASURES GOD

STUDY GUIDE • EPHESIANS 5:25-33



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# The Husband Who Pleases God

EPHESIANS 5:25-33

**WELCOME:**  
Fixing  
Our Focus

**Suggested icebreaker:**  
Ask each GG member to  
Imagine Christ as a husband.  
Ask them how they would  
describe Him as a husband.  
How would He treat His wife?

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**WORSHIP:**  
Adoring  
Our God

**Suggested songs:**

- Good Good Father
- This is My Father's World
- How Deep the Father's  
Love for Us

# WORD & WALK:

## Understanding & Applying the Word

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### LESSON AIM

1. GG members will learn how husbands should love their wives.
2. Married male GG members will sacrificially love their wives and be their spiritual leader.
3. GG members will thank God for instituting marriage and enabling couples to love as He commanded.

### INTRODUCTION

The triune God is part of every thriving marriage relationship. God the Father is the One who instituted marriage and joins couples together. God the Son set the example for husbands and wives to follow. God the Holy Spirit enables both husbands and wives to fulfill their roles in marriage. While previously we saw how God wants wives to submit to their husbands, now we will look at how God wants husbands to love their wives.

### Husbands are to love their wives as Christ loved the church (vv. 25-27)

1. How did Jesus show His love for the church? How would you describe this kind of love?
2. What is the purpose for Jesus sacrificing Himself for the church? By what means is this accomplished?
3. What does this say about the role of husbands in the marriage relationship?

### APPLICATION

#### **Children**

1. How do you feel when you see your dad loving your mom? Share your feelings.
2. How does dad show his love and affection for your mom? ex: Dad helps mom wash the dishes, or bring her out for dinner or to watch a movie. Share what your own dad does. *Note: Kids you may also talk about a special person in your life who loves you and your family like a father. ( grandfather, uncle)*

#### **Youth**

1. What are some of the tangible ways you have felt loved by your dad or a father figure? What are some of the ways you have seen them love their wife?
2. How can you demonstrate sacrificial love towards your church family?

# WORD & WALK:

## Understanding & Applying the Word

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### **Adults**

1. If you are single and looking forward to getting married in the future, how are you preparing yourself for it, knowing what God requires of you in the marriage relationship?
2. If you are married, how are you fulfilling your God-given role in marriage? What advice would you give to those who are single and preparing themselves for marriage?

### **Community**

What are some ways you can help couples in your community who are facing problems in their marriage?

### **World**

What similarities and differences do you see between how God defined marriage and how marriage is understood in our day and age? How can we bring our current understanding of marriage closer to how God designed it?

### **Husbands are to love their wives as themselves (vv. 28-30, 33)**

1. He who loves his wife loves himself.” In what ways is this statement true? How do husbands end up loving themselves by loving their wives?
2. What does it mean to “nourish” (cf. Ephesians 6:4) and “cherish” (cf. 1 Thessalonians 2:7) your body? How can husbands do the same for their wives?
3. What are some ways in which Christ nourishes and cherishes the church?

## **APPLICATION**

### **Children**

1. How much do you think dad loves himself and others (your mom and you and your siblings)? Is it 0%, 25%, 50%, or 100%? Choose from the choice of percent given and share why you pick that?
2. Have you been praying for your dad (grandfather, uncle) to be able to love God, love himself, and family and others? If you haven't done that yet, would you like to say a prayer for him now?

# WORD & WALK:

## Understanding & Applying the Word

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### **Youth**

1. Have you been able to love and take care of yourself lately? If so, in what ways? If not, how can you do so this coming week?
2. How do you think families, from the fathers to the children, can show nourishing and cherishing love towards each other?

### **Adults**

1. Why do you think it's easy and natural to take care of yourself, but not so when it comes to other people? How can we develop a nurturing attitude toward others, and if applicable, our spouse?
2. For husbands, how are you taking care of your wife? What pointers can you give for other husbands in the group?

### **Community**

How can Christian couples model God's design for marriage relationship in their communities?

### **World**

The love God has shown the world through Jesus Christ is literally and figuratively not of this world. Christian couples are called to exhibit this same kind of love in their marriage relationships. What impact do you think this will have on people around the world?

### **The married couple's "one flesh" union mirrors Christ's union with the church (vv. 31-32)**

1. What is the context of the quotation mentioned by Paul in this passage? What does this tell us of the origin of marriage? (cf. Genesis 2:24)
2. What does Jesus have to say about the quotation given by Paul? What is God's role in marriage? (cf. Matthew 19:4-6)
3. What relationship does Christ have with the church? For what purpose does Christ sanctify the church? (cf. Revelation 19:7)
4. How is a married couple's "one flesh" union expressed beyond the sexual relationship?



# WORD & WALK:

## Understanding & Applying the Word

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### APPLICATION

#### *Children*

Let us take time to pray for our own parents, that God will bless their relationship and that they will be more loving and forgiving toward one another.

#### *Youth*

1. What are some of the ways our culture today tries to tear down God's design and desire for marriage?
2. How can we as a local church today practically take care of our union and our relationship with Jesus?

#### *Adults*

1. For married couples, how are you doing regarding your "one flesh" union? How are you able to express this in your marriage? How does God help you in your marriage relationship?
2. For singles, how do you see the "one flesh" union being modeled by your parents? How can you adapt the same should you get married in the future?

#### *Community*

What are some practices in our culture that reinforce the "one flesh" union of husband and wife? What are some practices that couples should avoid because it weakens this union?

#### *World*

Having prenuptial agreements are becoming more common nowadays. What are your thoughts on this, in light of God's design for married couples becoming "one flesh"?

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### PRAYER ITEM

Pray for married couples in the GG, that they will reflect God's design and desire for their marriage relationship. Pray that they may be God's beacon of light to other couples around them. Pray for singles who are preparing themselves for marriage, that they may be ready for that kind of relationship.



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Know Christ and Make Him Known

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