

Becoming A Christ-Like Husband

Ephesians 5:25-33

Introduction

I Husbands Are To Love Their Wives

- A. With the same leadership Christ offered the church
 1. He was a servant/leader- Matt 20:20-28
 2. He spent time with his disciples
 3. He instructed his disciples - 1 Cor 14:35
 4. He was a good example - Jn 13:12-15
 5. He made decisions and delegated - Matt 10:5; 28:19
- B. With the same love Christ offered the church
 1. His love was unconditional - Rom 5:8
 2. His love was volitional - Eph 1:6-7
 3. His love was intense - Jn 13:1
 4. His love was unending - Jer 31:3
 5. His love was unselfish - Phil 2:6-8
 6. His love was purposeful - Eph 5:26-27
 7. His love was sacrificial - 1 Pet 3:18
 8. His love was manifested - Jn 13:34-35
- C. With the same objectives that Christ had for the church
 1. He gave himself up for her - Jn 10:18
 - a. To make her holy - Jn 17:17
 - b. To cleanse her with the Word - Tit 3:5; Jn 15:3
 - c. To present her as a radiant church
 1. Without imperfection - Col 1:28
 2. Without fault - Eph 1:4
- D. With the same devotion that Christ has for the church
 1. He feeds it - Jn 6:57-58
 2. He cares for it - 1 Thess 2:7
 - a. As Christ does His body - Eph1:22-23

II Husbands Are To Be Joined To Their Wives

- A. He is to leave his family
 1. Sever emotional dependence
 2. Sever authoritative dependence
 3. Sever financial dependence

- B. He is to be united to his wife
 1. A reflection of Christ and the church - Jn 15:5
- C. He is to love his wife
- D. His wife is to respect him

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. When the world thinks of a "manly man", what kind of images do they tend to envision? How does the Bible's standard of a "manly man" differ from the world's?
2. Jesus was the perfect example. Consider His leadership and love and then apply them practically to the way a husband should lead and love his wife.
3. Jesus had definite goals in his leadership and love of the church. What goals should a Christian husband have for his marriage and family? Do you have these goals?
4. The Bible indicates that a good husband gives his wife responsibility and uses her gifts to the full. What gifts or abilities does your wife have that you do not have? Are you assisting your wife in the cultivation of her gifts?
5. What are some of the essential steps for a man to grow in Christ-likeness? Is it possible for a man not to cultivate these characteristics and still be a godly husband?
6. Pray to become a truly godly man -- to lead, serve, love, disciple and care for your wife. Determine by God's grace that you will let nothing stand in the way of you becoming a truly Christ-like husband.

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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