

He Said / She Said . . . God Says . . . Ephesians 5:21-33

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Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Ephesians 5:21 (New International Version)

The Take-Home Truth: If married, marriage is your premier opportunity to imitate Christ.

Question: How do I show reverence for Christ in my marriage?

GOD SAYS . . . SUBMIT.

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. ²²Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Ephesians 5:21-24 (NIV)

Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. John 13:3-5 (NIV)

[Jesus] Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. Philippians 2:6-7 (NIV)

Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers. 1 Peter 3:7 (NIV)

Definition of Submission: a voluntary attitude of giving and cooperating, while assuming responsibility and carrying a burden.

GOD SAYS . . . LOVE.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word,²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.²⁸ In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. Ephesians 5:25-28 (NIV)

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NIV)

GOD SAYS . . . BE MY BRIDE!

After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church—³⁰for we are members of his body.³¹ “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”³² This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.³³ However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband. Ephesians 5:29-33 (NIV)

*Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his **bride** has made herself ready. Revelation 19:7 (NIV)*

Next Steps: <http://www.lighthousehome.org/ministries/adults/marriage>