

The Spirit-Filled Husband Part 2

Ephesians 5:25-33

1. In the message, I mentioned a central principle on which the text is built.
 - a. What is that central, unifying principle?

 - b. How does understanding that principle change the way you view a husband-wife relationship?

 - c. How does it change the way you view Christ's love for the church?

2. 5:28 says "In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies."
 - a. To what is the phrase "In the same way" referring?

 - b. How does the end of the verse (as their own bodies) change the nature of the love God requires of us?

 - c. How does the love described in 5:25-27 have to do with loving "as our own bodies"?

3. Loving "as our own bodies" is a difficult concept to grasp (5:32), but it is the key to understanding the love husbands are to show their wives.
 - a. What implication does Paul draw at the end of verse 28?

 - b. How does this contradict the idea that the husband's wife is his servant and only exists to do what he desires?

 - c. With that principle, what responsibilities does the husband have towards his wife?

4. 5:29 says we are to nourish and cherish our wives as Christ does His own body.
 - a. In what ways ought a husband to nourish and cherish his wife?

 - b. In what ways does Christ nourish and cherish His bride, the church?

5. 5:31-32 makes a stunning statement concerning the union of a husband and wife, tying it to creation, and not just culture.
 - a. According to 5:31 & Gen 2:24, what was one of God's intentions in marriage?

 - b. To what does the nature of this union refer?

 - c. How, then (based on what it points to) can singles or Christians with unbelieving spouses still celebrate and enjoy the intimacy to which marriage refers?