Digging Deeper Study Reshaped Relationship Week of May 4, 2025

Ephesians 5:21-33 NIV

²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

²² Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church

"In essentials, unity; (1 Corinthians 12:12-13) in non-essentials, liberty; (Romans 14:1) in all things, charity." (John 13:34)

Read the text completely, then come back and discuss the questions.

What does it mean to submit to one another in the context of Christian relationships? John 13:14-15, Philippians 2:5-8 How does this differ from worldly views of submission?

What is the motivation for this submission? What does "reverence for Christ" mean? Why is it important that our submission is rooted in our relationship with Jesus? Romans 5:5, 2 Corinthians 5:17

How can mutual submission enhance unity within the body of Christ? 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, Romans 12:10 What are some practical ways we can practice this in our daily interactions with fellow believers?

submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

How does the relationship between Christ and the church serve as a model for marriage? Ephesians 1:22-23, 1 Corinthians 6:17, Revelation 19:7-9 What can we learn from Christ's love and leadership that applies to marital relationships?

How can mutual respect and love be fostered in a marriage, reflecting the principles in these verses? How does this mutual respect enhance the relationship? 1 Peter 3:7, Colossians 3:18-19

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ 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. 29 After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the

church— ³⁰ for we are members of his body.

How does Christ's love for the church serve as a model for husbands in loving their wives? What are some specific ways Christ's sacrificial love can be reflected in a marriage?

How can husbands and wives practice sacrificial love in their daily lives? John 15:13

What does it mean for a husband to nourish and cherish his wife, as Christ does the church? How can this principle be applied practically in a marriage?

his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

What does this "leaving and cleaving" signify in the context of marriage? How does it relate to the commitment and unity in the relationship?

How can husbands and wives practically express love and respect to one another in their daily lives? Why are both elements crucial for a healthy marriage?

	How can the principles in these verses help couples reflect Christ's love and unity in their marriage? What are some challenges they might face, and how can they rely on their identity in Christ to overcome them? (Colossians 3:14)
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