

Ephesians 5:21-33

3 Biblical Responsibilities A Husband Owes His Wife



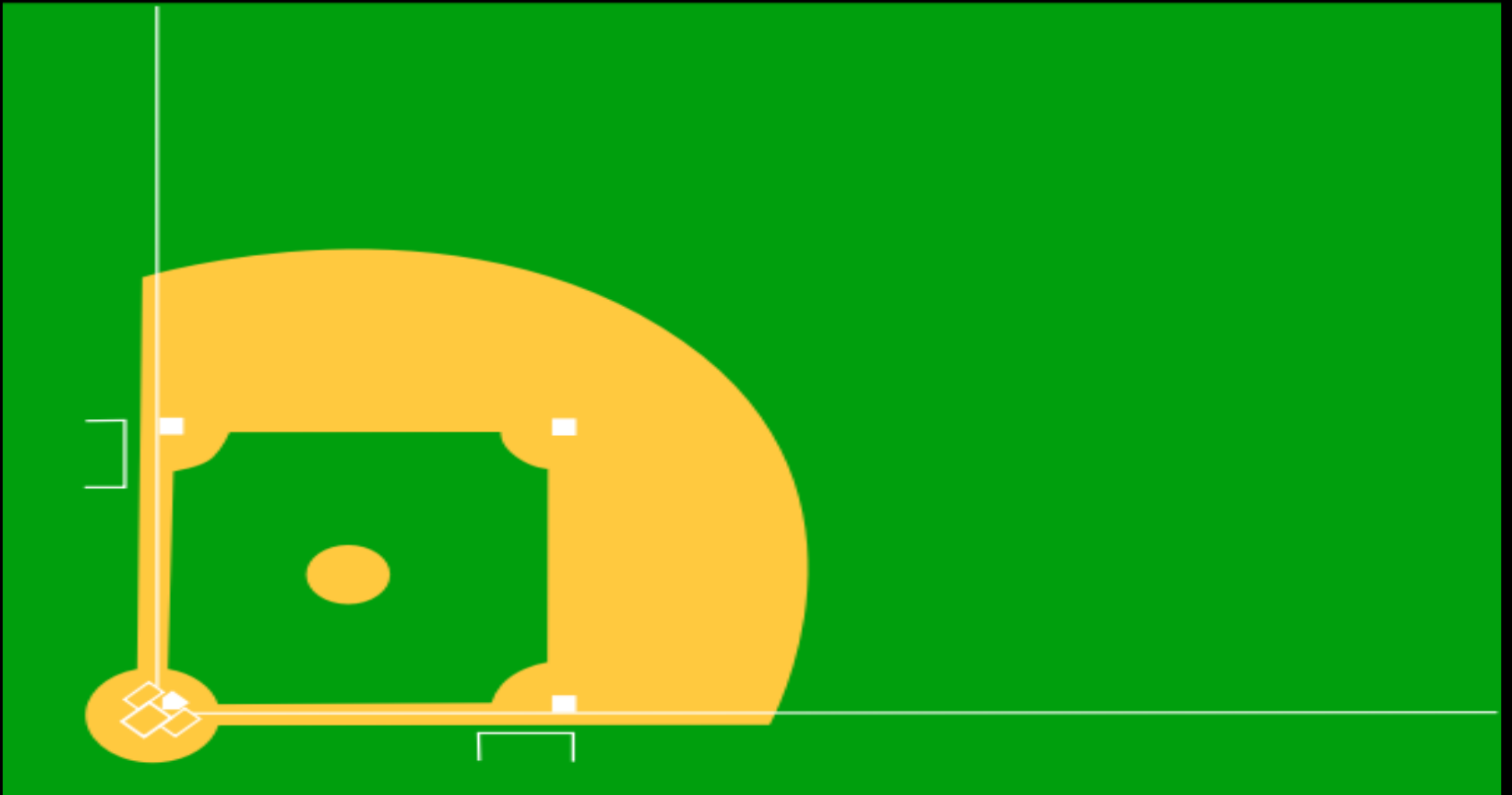
Context/Background

- Author: Apostle Paul (60-62 AD) Paul is under house arrest in Rome for preaching
- Audience: Believers in the NT church in city of Ephesus; located in Asia Minor (today Turkey)
- Important Context: At this time, major cultures of world treated women as property, not people; women in Jewish, Greek, and Roman cultures had almost no rights
- Into this anti-women environment, Paul gave radical instructions

Exemplifying Servant Leadership

- (vv. 21-24) Christian relationships very different than unbelievers; care and reverence for one another
- Verses most often misapplied; Husband is to lead his wife/family through servant leadership (serving wife as Jesus served Church)
- Doesn't mean wife; abused, slave, ruled over by tyrant, can't express self
- "submit" – "voluntarily arrange under"
- Not question of value, but function

- I Cors. 11:3, “But I want you to know the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.”



Exuding Supernatural Love

- (vv.25-29) Christian husband is to operate in, and with God's genuine love
- This supernatural love imparted to believers
- Husband is to saturate home with this love in thoughts, words, and actions
- (v.25) love sacrificially: Jesus "gave" Himself for the church and died for it
- (vv.26-27) No one perfect! Jesus loved Church not because it WAS perfect, but so as to lead it in that direction
- Love tells truth and seeks right

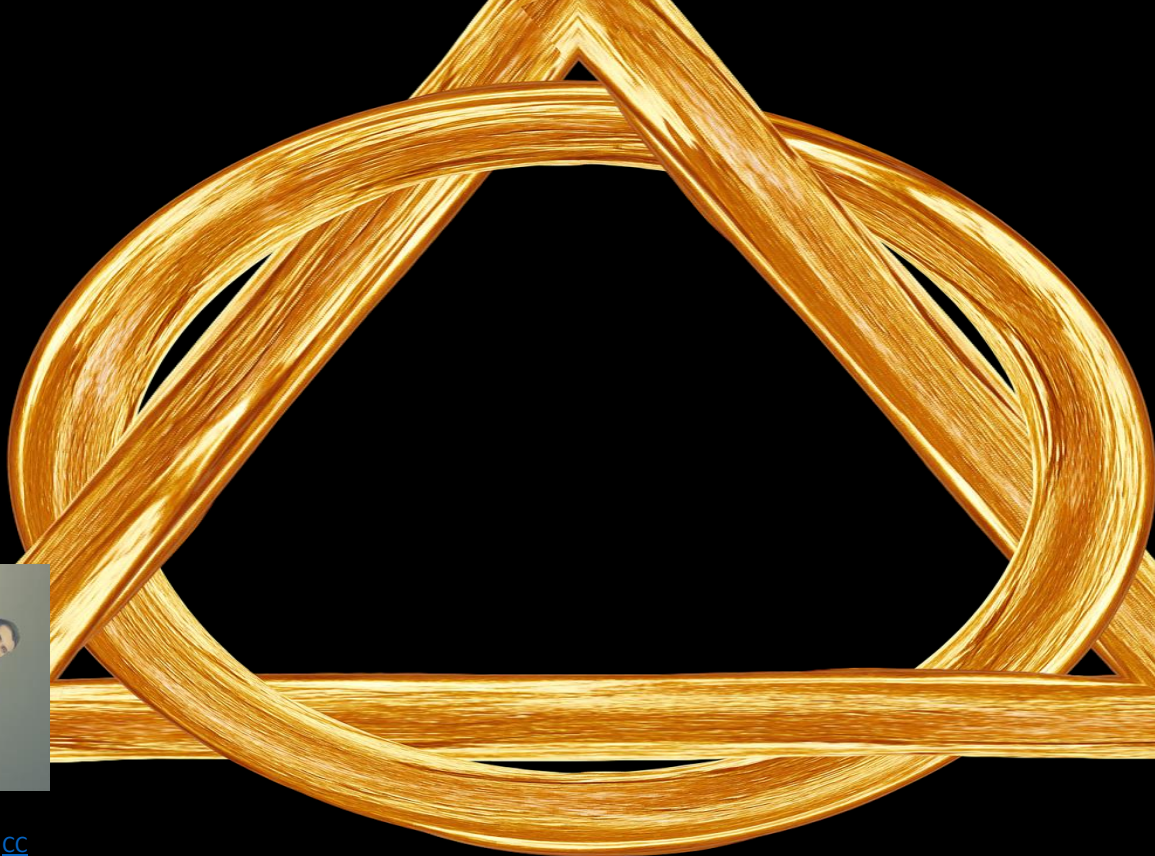
- I Cors. 13:4-7, “Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely; does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”



Extending A Scriptural Legacy

- (vv.30-33) As Jesus loyal to church, husband is to be loyal to wife; follow Jesus' will for family
- Can't be perfect, but we can be faithful and loyal to Jesus and His plan for family
- Paul quotes (Gen. 2:24) illustrate God's will for family and its continuation
- In verse; Leaving, Cleaving, and Weaving
- In new family, wife is new priority relationship (outside of rel. with Jesus)
- Special consideration to wife and growing over time together

- Psalm 127:1, “Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it;...”



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