

Salem Full Gospel Church - Healthy Marriage Series

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MARRIAGE AND INTIMACY

We live in a world gone mad, where some people say anything goes, with whoever and whenever you want. Some say wait until you are married, but then anything goes, regardless of how the other person feels.

Let's take a look at what God says about love and intimacy:

Eph 5:21 ¶ **Submitting yourselves one to another** in the fear of God.

22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

Col 3:18 ¶ Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

19 Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.

We see the words "submit", "love", and "reverence". The word submit is a word that takes action from the one submitting; it is not something forced or imposed on someone. The word love is a selfless kind of love, that puts the needs and desires of the other ahead of your own. The word reverence means to show respect for; women primarily require love, and men like to be shown respect. Notice also that the submission goes both ways, contrary to popular notion.

Love will not impose upon someone something that is vulgar or disgusting to them, if it is only to satisfy a selfish desire. God has never blessed perversion; whether people were married or not, and real love and respect will seek to

satisfy your spouse ahead of yourself, in all settings, intimacy included.