

Serie: Before And After You Say "I Do"

Message: The Mystery Of Marriage

Scripture: Ephesians 5:21-33

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Ephesians 5:31-32

31 For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh.

32 This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

1. Oneness In Marriage Takes Place When The Goal Of Marriage Focuses More On Your Partner's Needs Than On Your Own.

1.1 Both Partners Must Possess Selfless Hearts.

Ephesians 5:21

21 and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

1.2 Both Partners Must Assume Their God-Given Roles.

Ephesians 5:22-24

22 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body.

24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.

1.3 Both Partners Must Be Faithful To Their Appropriate Responsibilities.

1) to demonstrate sacrificial love

Ephesians 5:25

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

2) to demonstrate sanctifying love

Ephesians 5:26-27

²⁶ so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

²⁷ that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

3) to demonstrate self-like love

Ephesians 5:28-30

²⁸ So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself;

²⁹ for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church,

³⁰ because we are members of His body.

Ephesians 5:33a

³³ Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself,...

Ephesians 5:33b

³³ ... and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

2. Oneness In Marriage Takes Place In An Environment Of Dedication, Hard Work, and Sacrifice, In Order To Meet One's Partners Needs.

- 1) Speak The Appropriate Language Of Love.**
- 2) Find Your Spouses Greatest Need And Fill It.**
- 3) Engage In Mutual Life Activities That Foster Both Friendship And Fun.**
- 4) Schedule "Talk Time" To Explore Your Spouse's Questions, Emotions And Spiritual Life.**
- 5) Pray Together Regularly, Being Transparent Before The Lord.**

Elisabeth Elliot

"Will the young woman find a mate? Will the couple have a child? Maybe this year will be the year of desire fulfilled. Perhaps, on the other hand, it will be the year of desire radically transformed, the year of finding, as we have perhaps not yet truly found, Christ to be the All-Sufficient One, Christ the deep sweet well of Love."