

“Designed By God: Is Marriage Still A Good Idea?”

Ephesians 5:15-33 - Marriage & Relationship Series #2

As followers of Jesus Christ, our marriages must model God’s divine _____ and demonstrate a way of living that is both rewarding and meaningful. How?

- **By _____**

If believers don’t preserve the family institution, society is going to crumble.

- **Fulfill the _____**

You must be a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. Christian marriage can only work when it is done God’s way with Christ as the head of the marriage.

- **The _____**

We must live in our marriages *“being filled with the Holy Spirit” Eph.5:18*. When we are not *“filled with the Spirit”* our family life will show the unfortunate result of that.

What Does It Mean to Have a Marriage Under the Influence of a Spirit-filled Relationship?

Someone who is Spirit-filled doesn’t _____ for the top: they fight for the bottom. Ephesians 5:21

“Submit” means to: *line up; to get in order; to arrange; to rank beneath or under.* The whole mentality of the Christian life is to be one of humble _____. C.f. Phil. 2: 4-8

Wives, submission is a _____ response to God’s will. (vv.22-24) It is a willingness to give up your rights to other believers in general and in this case to your own husband.

As husbands we really _____ love for our wives – when we are willing to give up everything for her, including our lives if necessary. Eph. 5:25

Husbands, if you really love your wife, you will do everything in your power to maintain her _____. Love always seeks to _____. Eph. 5:26-27

Husbands, you “cherish” your wife when you provide a secure, safe, warm haven for her. God _____ you to provide for and protect her, to nourish and cherish her. Eph. 5:28-29

For a husband to love his wife as Christ loves His church – he must love her with an _____ love. Eph. 5:31 Let your wife rest in the security of knowing that you belong to her, for life.

To both the husband and wife – your marriage relationship is a _____ to the relationship between Jesus Christ and His bride, the church. Eph. 5:32

What if I have blown it and not done it God’s way?

You can start, right now, today to do it God’s way! God’s promise is for you – *1 John 1:9 “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” C.f. Isaiah 1:18*

Every wrong you have ever done, including starting and ending a marriage wrongly – through your faith in Jesus Christ was nailed to the Cross. It is forgiven forever!

“You have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority...and you were dead in your trespasses...God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us...he set it aside, nailing it to the cross.” Colossians 2:10-14