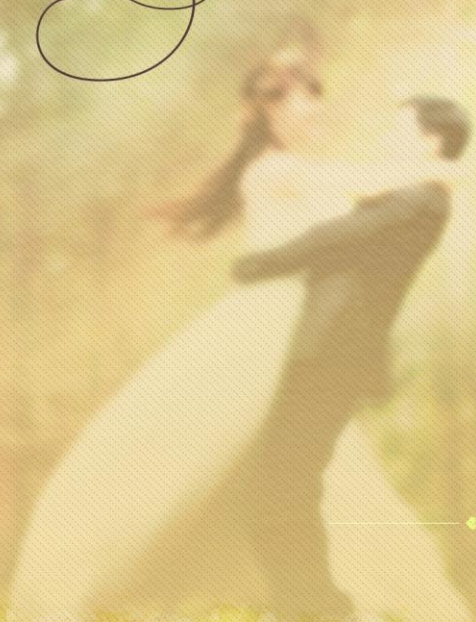




MARRIAGE

Sermon 
SNAPSHOTS



The Next Steps for Husbands

1. Love (Ephesians 5:25-29, 33)

- a. One of the greatest needs women have is to be loved, and know that they are loved.
- b. Husbands are to love their wives like Christ who gave Himself up for the church.
 - i. Husbands, are you willing to sacrifice of yourself – your time, your hobbies, your sports, your friends – are you willing to put your wife before yourself?
- c. V. 29 reminds us to nourish and cherish
 - i. Nourish – ensure she is growing and healthy spiritually
 - ii. Cherish – to value, treasure, and appreciate – showing her that she’s important to you.

2. Learn (1 Peter 3:7)

- a. This implies trying to understand our wives
- b. We learn when we listen (James 1:19)

3. Lead (Ephesians 5:23)

- a. Head implies responsibility and leadership
- b. Husbands are responsible for the condition of their homes (Genesis 3:9)

The Next Steps for Wives

1. Support (Genesis 2:18)

- a. God made woman to be a helper to man
- b. Husbands’ need wives help in leading the home in the way God intends it to be led.
- c. Husbands need wives help in becoming the man God intended him to be – encourage him!
- d. Provide a strong spiritual example for your husband (1 Peter 3:3-4)

2. Submit (Ephesians 5:22-24)

- a. Submission means to rank under – it is used as a military term used to describe how some fall into rank under a higher position.
- b. What this means for wives is learning to follow the leadership of your husband.
- c. Don’t take over. Encourage him to lead. Help him make decisions, but also communicate you trust his decisions.

3. Show Respect (Ephesians 5:33)

- a. Respect, honor, and esteem him.
- b. A woman's words are powerful (Proverbs 14:1; 12:4)
 - i. Your words can tear your husband to pieces
 - ii. Your words can also build and strengthen him more than ever.
- c. Speak well to your husband – replacing criticism with compliments
- d. Speak well of your husbands to others
 - i. What a difference your respectful behavior will make to your husband! (1 Peter 3:1-2)

The Next Steps for Married Couples

1. Pray

- a. Pray every day with your mate
- b. Pray every day for your mate

2. Protect

- a. There are many predators which threaten a healthy marriage.
- b. Be wise and aggressive in protecting your marriage
 - i. David was at the wrong place at the wrong time – he lingered and fell to the sin of lust (2 Samuel 11:2-5).
 - ii. Joseph was in a similar situation, tempted to sin – he fled and remained faithful to God (Genesis 39:1-12)
 - iii. Set up blockers on the internet to keep you from seeing inappropriate things. Don't be alone with someone of the opposite sex. Be open and transparent with your mate about all things.

3. Pursue

- a. The love I have for my mate must only continue to grow as the years go on.
- b. Going on dates, holding hands, by each other's side in sickness or health, in good times or bad – that's a loving pursuit.
- c. Our love for each other must follow the example of Christ (Romans 8:35-39).
- d. Can you say that to your mate today – nothing will separate me from my love for you?

–Jordan Shouse

Fishers Church of Christ

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