



**THE PICTURES OF MARRIAGE:
The basics of marriage
Eph 5.22-33**

I have four goals for this series of message on marriage and relationships:

1. I want your marriage (or relationship) to honor God.
2. I want your marriage to be the marriage God is pleased to bless.
3. I want your marriage to last.
4. I want your marriage to be a blessing to this church.

What if you are divorced?

1. Divorce is not the unpardonable sin.
2. God is the God of grace, forgiveness, and healing.
3. Make a commitment to submit yourself to God and His word going forward in any future relationships you may have.

Ephesians 5 gives us four pictures of the marriage relationship:

I. THE AND THE PICTURE OF A (v. 21)

Matt. 6.33: But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

If you want your marriage to be what God desires it to be, then you must be _____
_____ in your own life first, foremost, and always.

II. _____ AND THE PICTURE OF _____ (vv. 22-24, 33).

BE SUBJECT: This implied command means you recognize your husband as the _____ of the household; you may and will have differences of opinion and that's fine. But at the end of the day, the husband, biblically, is the head of the home as Christ is head of the church.

In v. 33, the word "respect" means literally to _____.

If the husband wants his wife to _____ him, then he must _____ her.

III. _____ AND THE PICTURE OF _____ (vv. 25-29, 33).

MATT. 22.37: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.

LOVE: literally a _____, to intentionally do for another person what is _____ for them out of a respect for them and a desire to want the very best for them.

Husbands go all out in your love for your wives, exactly as Christ did for the church—a love marked by giving , not getting (The Message).

Two more important words for husbands with regard to their wives from v. 29:

NOURISH: to help grow to _____

CHERISH: to give _____ for; to tenderly care for

There should be no starvation for love in the Christian home, for the husband and wife should so love each other that their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs are met. If both are submitted to the Lord, and to each other, they will be so satisfied that they will not be tempted to look anywhere else for fulfillment¹

IV. THE _____ **AND THE PICTURE OF** _____ **(vv. 30-32)**

We leave in three ways:

1. _____ – move out!
2. _____ – don't go crying to momma or daddy every time you have disagreement; work it out together as husband and wife.
3. _____ – support one another and provide for each other, don't continue to depend on your parents for financial support.

In her book, *Choosing Marriage* which I strongly endorse. Debra Fileta wrote the following about marriage:

We're more concerned about the flavor of our wedding cake than about how we'll manage conflict and communications. We're so busy creating the perfect wedding announcement that we fail to discuss creating the best atmosphere for our future marriage².

What are the basics about marriage and relationships that we learn from Paul?

1. God wants to _____ your marriage; _____ Him with it.
2. Marriage takes _____; be 100% _____ to it.
3. Strong marriages equal _____; be part of it.
4. Satan is _____ – protect it!

¹ Warren Wiersbe, *Be Rich (Ephesians)* (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1976), 145.

² Debra Fileta, *Choosing Marriage* (Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 2018), 14.