



Week 3 - Faithful Love

The marriage union has been around since the beginning of time, but its purpose hasn't changed. God STILL uses marriage today to shape people into those who reflect him. Investing in your marriage will make you a better spouse, parent and Jesus-follower, so get busy investing.

Scriptures:

And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.
Ephesians 5:21

And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything.

For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself. No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church. And we are members of his body.

As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one." This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

Ephesians 5:21-33

Ice Breaker and Intro Question:

1. What has been the most encouraging thing you've gained from the Crazy Love teaching series so far?
2. What resonated with you from Sunday's service? (Sermon, scripture, song, etc.)

Discussion Questions

1. Chip shared that, "Marriage starts the family, children expand the family." Why do you think this is true? What can we learn from this or even apply to our relationships?
2. "The best gift you can give your kids is a great marriage." Why is this such an important lesson to learn?
3. This message can stir a lot of emotions for many of us - from our family of origin, from our own experiences. What emotions does this message and topic bring up for you? Share, if you're willing, and listen to one another without immediately responding.
4. Read Ephesians 5:21. How does this verse transform how we see all relationships?
5. Take a moment and read Ephesians 5:21-33 quietly by yourself. Note a couple of areas where you could grow in relationships. What is challenging or comforting from this passage?
6. How do you sense God speaking to you through his word & through your discussion? Take a moment to reflect on your own, share briefly as a group, and then close in prayer together.

Additional Resources:

- We put together some resources for this series at www.wschurch.org/resources. You'll find links to videos, books, Bible reading plans, and more.

Notes: