

EPHESIANS 5:25-31 – COMMIT!

IF YOU'RE LOOKING BOOK IN BIBLE READ **GOSPEL** – Jesus working/miracles – IF UR LOOKING FOR MIRACLES LOOK NO FURTHER ROOM – FULL.. God works in house

- Stories about how Jesus healed a marriage that was headed for divorce. How He changed a marriage that was broken, hopeless, lifeless, and loveless into a powerhouse of fidelity, faithfulness, strength, and vitality. . **REAL TIME...** But to get there, you have to commit

MP: God glorifying, strong and satisfying marriages come when you are committed to Christ and your spouse and the plan He has for your marriage.

In a gospel-centered marriage, couples mutually acknowledge their shared purpose is to radiate Christ's love for His church and the church's love for Jesus.

Marriage is the 1 living metaphor through which God has chosen to display to all people the beauty of Christ's love and his profound relationship with His people. **J. CENTER**

GOD: I WANT WORLD TO HAVE A PIC HOW MUCH CHRIST LOVES PPL – ALWAYS

- **HUSBANDS LEAD IN THIS – LOVE HER AS JESUS.....told her we got married NO EXCEPTIONS – AS A CHRISTIAN MAN YOU CAN'T SAY – THAT'S NOT FOR ME**
No husband left behind: too busy, unhappy marriage, wife doesn't meet expectations, not spiritual enough, never had that example, spiritual things are for other people

LOVE YOUR WIVES

FIRST - MEN YOU GOTTA GO TO THE SOURCE – not ur news outlet. ur hobby. ur poker friends. JESUS IS THE SOURCE. YOU HAVE TO GET GOD'S LOVE

You can't give something away that you yourself don't have.

Joshua couldn't lead the people unless he was led by God, Paul couldn't plant churches and preach salvation unless he saved, u can't give Christ's love to ur wife **U HAVE IT**
Paul isn't saying husbands should know *about* God's love but that they should *know* God's love.

There's a big difference between knowing about something and knowing something.

- Rachel new about mths prayed (other people told – watched/creepy) – SPEND TIME/talking/experiences– rel deepened. DIDN'T KNOW EACHOTHER –
 - o **THAT'S YOU AND GOD - GUYS**

SECOND - MEN SET YOUR (not the) STANDARD - JESUS IS THE STANDARD

ACTION/WAR - CHICK FLICK: Church islove story – not only intimacy/tender – Jesus fought – went war 4 his bride. SO MANY MEN DON'T FIGHT MARRIAGE – Woman wants to be fought for.. **COMMITMENT – JESUS IS IN A COMMITTED RELATIONSHIP W/ U**

- **GIVE: SAY** - gave – **Being husband is about giving, not taking. As Christ loved**
You can't be in a relationship to get and not give. Do you give as good as you get?
 - o Not 50/50 - Taking Initiative – going first – not waiting responding
 - o **To the Point that it hurts - Sacrifice** urself and ur interests: **not about u**
- **WORK: SAY** - Sanctifies HER – cleanses by washing of water of the word

- Working for her spiritual good... washing/sanctifying/cleansing - GOSPEL

John 15:3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.

- **SEE – SAY** - Vision/prepared for that day – OUR WEDDING DAY
 - Every bride wants to be wrinkle-free – stay that way
 - **JESUS' WORK IS SO COMPLETE IT IS ETERNALLY PERMANENT**
 - Splendor/wrinkle free/spot free – perfectly beautiful

YOU SEE WHAT CHRIST IS DOING IN HER LIFE – JOIN HIM...NOT WORKING AGAINST

In the light of Christ's complete giving of himself to make the church holy and cleanse her, husbands should be utterly committed to their wives' total well-being, especially their spiritual welfare.

SINGLE MAN: prep before you promise...

MEN – YOU AREN'T YOUR OWN ANYMORE

THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE – can't view yourself as separate from your wife

- ANY MORE THAN SAYING – my arm isn't part of me, leg, chest –
- If you love your wife, you love yourself – NO ONE HATED HIS OWN FLESH
 - **YOU'RE THAT TIGHT – YOUR THAT CLOSE..**

WE ARE TALKING CONNECTED – ROOTED – ONENESS – **can't be ½ in. can throw in the towel when things get a little hard. Can't have one foot in and one foot out**

You want the blessing without the commitment, to flourish without the fidelity.

FOR THIS PIC 2 WORK - YOU GOTTA BE COMMITTED....3 SPHERES OF YOUR LIFE

- **COMMITTED TO GOD:** No other God's before HIM – WORSHIPER/FOLLOWER
- **COMMITTED TO YOUR YOUR MARRIAGE:** Vows permanently bound u love
- **COMMITTED TO YOUR CHURCH:** the local church is where the metaphor shines – how are people going to connect ur godly marriage to Christ's ppl – if you can't even be committed

FAMILY: Your son is going to learn to treat his future wife through how you treat his mama. Your daughter is going to have a standard set on what kind of man she's waiting for.