

## Thursday

Read Ephesians 5:31,32. Marriage should be an illustration of the relationship between Christ and the church. How should a Christian marriage show the relationship of Jesus to His bride, the Church?

If you are married, what do you want your marriage to say about Jesus to a watching world?

How has your understanding of marriage and the role of the husband been changed in this study? What will you do differently based on this understanding of marriage?

*As you did the last two days, please pray by name for three married couples that you know — different couples than you prayed for thus far. If you are married, ask God to show you how to love like this in specific ways today... and this week!*

## Friday

Let's look ahead to this weekend's verses: Read Ephesians 6:1-4. What qualities would characterize a home where the children and parents applied these verses consistently?

What four reasons are given for children to obey their parents?

How are you "honoring" your parents?

*Pray that God will help you honor your parents in specific ways today. Also pray for the parents and children in our church; that their relationship would reflect these verses.*

## Saturday

*Please pray for the weekend services, and think about who you might invite! Thanks.*

Some discussion questions this week adapted from a North Point Church devotional by Voddie Baucham and The Serendipity Study Bible.

## Prayer Updates

### HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week...

Beverly Bivins — testing  
Elaine Hedges — testing  
Michael Zeh — RCU, recovering from brain surgery  
Buck Harris — ICU, pneumonia  
Leslie Douglas — acute pancreatitis  
**Recent hospitalizations/surgeries:** Brad Ethrington, Chuck Bentley, Irvin Smith, Joy Reynolds, Judy Helmle, Nelda Barton, Verjean Kalashian

### HOME WITH THE LORD

**Douglas Burd** passed away this week after a lengthy illness; the prayers of our church family along with visits from our hospital visitation team were of great comfort to him.

Lynn Wagner, daughter of one of our dear shut-ins, **Shirley Lopes**, let us know that her mother is now present with the Lord. A celebration of her life will be Saturday, August 4 at Lighthouse Christian Fellowship.

### We want to provide pastoral support...

Please call 465-3395 when someone is hospitalized, scheduled for surgery, becomes a shut-in, or in special need. Prayer support is available through our pastors and numerous prayer groups — call 689-9400. Please pick up a Prayer Update at the Info Desk.

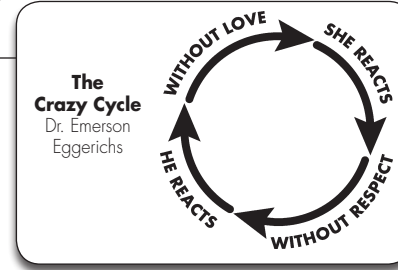


## Relationship Remodel

Ephesians 5:21-6:9

**THIS WEEK:** The Master Bedroom  
**NEXT WEEK:** The Family Room  
**IN 2 WEEKS:** The Office

August 4 & 5, 2007 • René Schlaepfer



The Crazy Cycle  
Dr. Emerson Eggerichs

### How to break "The Crazy Cycle":

"Each one of you must **love** his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must **respect** her husband."  
*v. 33*

#### 1. Wives, give your husband the \_\_\_\_\_ he needs

"Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord." *v. 22*

**SURPRISING FACT:** The word "submit" is not in the original Greek for this verse. In the original language, this phrase is part of verse 21, reading "Submit to one another out of reverence to Christ: Wives to husbands, as to the Lord..."

Paul himself clarifies what he meant a few verses later when he recaps this section: "...the wife must **respect** her husband." *v. 33b*

#### Yes, but how?

- Be appreciative in specific ways about his job and personality
- Be careful with criticism
- Write affirming cards or notes
- \_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. Husbands, give your wife the \_\_\_\_\_ she longs for

"Husbands, love your wives, **just as Christ loved the church...**" *v. 25a*

#### How did Jesus love the church? Three examples:

- **With love that is** \_\_\_\_\_

"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and **gave himself up for her** to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless." *v. 25-27*

#### Yes, but how?

- Learn to say NO! to some non-family obligations
- Ask, "What can I do for you?"
- Major on forgiveness and a fresh start
- \_\_\_\_\_

• **With love that is** \_\_\_\_\_

“In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives **as their own bodies**. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but **he feeds and cares for it**, just as Christ does the church — for we are members of his body.” *v. 28-30*

**Yes, but how?**

- Have weekly dates
- Get control of the TV
- Learn each other’s love language (words, gifts, service, time, or touch)
- \_\_\_\_\_

• **With love that is** \_\_\_\_\_

“For this reason a man will **leave his father and mother** and be united to his wife, and the two will become **one flesh**.” *v. 31*

**Yes, but how?**

- Affirm your commitment often
- Check into a hotel for the weekend
- Stand by your woman!
- \_\_\_\_\_

*When a man says to his wife, ‘I love you,’ and he means it as Christ loved the church, it means: You, you, you. I choose you. You shall dwell in my heart and I in yours. You are the one I have longed for. I will give everything for you, I will give up everything for you, I will give everything to you, myself as well as all I possess. I will work for you and wait for you. I want to guard you and protect you. I want to share with you my thoughts, my heart, my body — all that I possess. I want to listen to what you have to say. I want to bless and support your undertakings. I want to remain always at your side. I will die for you.*

—Walter Trobisch

**BIG IDEA:**

**Our most basic responsibility in Christian marriage is to become reinforcers of the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ that come from God.**

## Monday

What comes to mind when you think about the word “submission”?

Read Ephesians 5:21. What is our motivation for submitting to one another?

Read John 13:3-5 and Philippians 2:3-11. How has Christ modeled for us humility and submission?

*Thank God for the servant heart of Jesus Christ. Ask Him to help you model this to others today. . . and all week.*

## Tuesday

Read Ephesians 5:22-24. These verses instruct wives to “submit” to their husbands. Unfortunately, this aspect of biblical marriage has been misunderstood and misapplied for generations. How does Ephesians 5:33 help explain what Paul means by “submit”?

Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. How do these verses, also penned by Paul, help explain what “submission” in marriage looks like?

Based on the message last weekend, how would you explain what “submission” means biblically?

*Pray by name for three married couples that you know: That they might exhibit this kind of mutual submission and love. If you are married, ask God to show you how to love like this in specific ways today. . . and this week!*

## Wednesday

Read Ephesians 5:25. How does this description of love differ from the romantic ideal that our culture promotes?

Read Ephesians 5:26,27. A husband is to love spiritually, by “washing his wife in the Word” What does this mean? Why is it important for the husband to be a leader in the spiritual life of the family?

Read Ephesians 5:28-30. A husband is to love his wife personally, as he loves his own body. How can a husband develop this kind of personal care and intimacy for his wife in marriage?

*As you did yesterday, please pray by name for three married couples that you know — different couples than you prayed for yesterday. Pray that they might exhibit this kind of mutual submission and love. If you are married, ask God to show you how to love like this in specific ways today. . . and this week!*



**Memory Verse**

*“However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.”*  
Ephesians 5:33