

Sustaining Revival: A Study on Ephesians
Lesson 19 “The Husband’s Role in Marriage”

I. Introduction - We are studying the book of the *Ephesians* focusing on how to sustain revival.

A. The revival in Ephesus was the largest new testament revival recorded in Acts. Over 100,000 people were saved in a city the size of Greensboro within two years. Ephesus became a revival center in the first century. Multiple churches were planted out of this church including all 7 churches in the book of Revelation.

B. Paul wrote this letter to the church in Ephesus in A.D. 60 about five years later to establish them in truth after the goosebumps had worn off so they could have a sustained experience with God and continue to increase in person revival.

C. The first three chapters of Ephesians focus on positional truth (who we are in Christ, seated in heavenly places, how much God loves us, etc). The last three chapters of Ephesians focus on practical application or how we should live out of who we are.

D. We are taking a few weeks to study *Ephesians 5-6* about the family. This is the first institution God ever created and it is the primary revival unit.

1. If we want to see revival sustain and accelerate, we must learn how to do marriage and parenting right. The family is the institution God created to replicate himself and reveal His glory through and it has come under attack.

2. In ancient Israel’s history, there was a link between idolatry and sexual immorality. The devil still uses the same tactics today to attack the church and end revivals today so it’s important to get this right. Example: Lakeland, IHOP.

3. Last time we looked at unity in marriage. God took Eve out of Adam just like He took the church out of Jesus. We need to see ourselves that way.

II. The Husband’s Role in Marriage - Tonight we are going to talk about the husband’s role in marriage. To make this more impactful and emphatic, I want you to imagine the wife isn’t that great. The reason is unless the wife commits adultery or is abusive, what she does is not supposed to affect what the husband does. And if he does what he’s supposed to do, he’ll bless his wife and dramatically influence her chances of living more godly.

A. Ephesians 5:21-33

1. **Show our wives love - Verse 33** Primary need of a woman - love. Man’s primary need is respect. Ex: kids example. The first thing a man needs to do is make his wife feel loved. Ex: Arguing and having the right facts, but not making my wife feel loved. Sometimes we need less head and more heart.

- a. How? **1 Peter 3:7** helps us. The first six verses are instructions for wives. Men only got one verse because we are so slow. Peter tells us to dwell with them with knowledge - **gnosis - understanding (scientific)**.
 - b. Men need to study our wives. Figure out what makes them tick. They are more complex than us. He doesn't tell women to do this because they do this more intuitively than us. We're simple. Ex: my recent story. **If we'll do what our wives need to make them feel loved, they'll do more of what we need reciprocally to make us feel respected.**
 - c. One way to do this is learn your wife's love language.
 - d. Weaker vessel - this is talking about physically not mentally/spiritually.
2. **Protect - Verse 25** This is what Jesus did for His bride. He died for her to protect her from hell. Men, part of our roles as leaders in the home is to make our wives feel safe spiritually, physically, and emotionally.
3. **Speak grace to her** - Many men make their wife feel physically safe. Ex: Have an alarm system, pit-bull, and multiple guns, but they don't make them feel emotionally safe because they harm them with their words (insensitive).
- a. We are called to speak grace to our wife and wash her with the water of the word. **Ephesians 4:29** and **Ephesians 5:26-27**.
 - b. This means we affirm her in her identity in Christ and declare the truth God declares over her. We do this before she starts to walk in these truths.
 - i. Song of Solomon example
 - ii. **Proverbs 5:18**
 - c. It doesn't mean we can't ever disagree, but we need to do our best to make her feel loved and safe in the disagreement/criticism.
4. **Nourish and cherish her** (pamper her TPT). **28** *Husbands have the obligation of loving and caring for their wives the same way they love and care for their own bodies, for to love your wife is to love your own self.* **29** *No one abuses his own body, but pampers it—serving and satisfying its needs. That's exactly what Christ does for his church!*
5. **Lead - Verse 23** - This is one everyone expected me to say first, but I saved for last because I wanted to describe what a man's leadership should look like.
- a. Jesus and the disciples - He led, corrected, at times he said some tough stuff, but they followed because they know He loved them. Ex: John.
 - b. Jesus led by loving and serving not by lording over them. What woman wouldn't want to follow a man who treated them like Jesus?
 - c. Submission - Our story on Ashley getting a job in Colorado.

III. Conclusion - As I conclude, I want to encourage all of the men that everything I'm telling you to do, Jesus does for you. He died for you, cherishes you, protects you speaks grace over you. Draw on that and it will help you love your wife. Wives pray for your husbands. Submit to them as unto the Lord even if they aren't really seeking the Lord. Submit as much as you can and pray for them. When they see your conduct and God hears your prayers, it will help conform them to His image.

- A. Receive Offering
- B. Call Up Prayer Team
- C. Pray Closing Prayer