

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF PRAYER ATLANTA
EPHESIANS, PT. 11 – MARRIAGE, FAMILY AND WORK (EPH
5:21-6:9)
MARCH 18TH, 2018 – BILLY HUMPHREY

I. Introduction

A. In this section Paul transitions from how we are to walk out love and unity in the church to how we are to walk out love and unity in our families and at work.

B. There are two guiding principles that he gives in chapter 5 that enable us to walk in love in the different areas of our lives:

1. The first is found in Ephesians 5:2 & 5:25: Love others and give yourself for them as Jesus has given Himself for us.
2. The second is found in Ephesians 5:21: Submit to one another in reverence to God.
3. These two concepts form the foundation of walking in love in every area of our lives, especially in marriage, family, and work.

C. Depending on the environment, giving our lives and/or submission looks different. Paul, therefore, gives us details as to how it looks different depending on the specific relationship.

D. A key concept Paul covers here is headship. Jesus is the head of the church and as such has established headship in each of the different relational scenarios of life. Understanding headship is critical to understanding the appropriate relationship between a husband and wife, a parent and a child, a boss and an employee (1 Cor 11:3).

E. Lastly, Paul summarizes the teaching on marriage by explaining that the human institution of marriage is a picture of the heavenly reality of Christ and His church. In marriage we get a clear picture of Jesus' desires for His people and this picture should inform everything to us about how we are to love within our marriages.

II. Husbands and Wives

Ephesians 5:21-33 submitting to one another in the fear of God. 22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. 28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own

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flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. 30 For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. 31 "FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH." 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

- A. Submit to one another in reverence for God
- B. Wives submit (be subject) to your own husbands
 - 1. The husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church
 - 2. As the church is subject to Jesus, wives are to be subject to the headship of their husbands
- C. Husbands love your wives as Christ loves the church and gave Himself
 - 1. To help her grow in sanctification
 - 2. To help her become glorious
 - 3. Love her as you love yourself
 - 4. Nourish and cherish her
- D. Leave your father and mother and be joined to your wife
- E. The two shall become one flesh
- F. This is a great mystery that speaks of Christ and the church
- G. Husbands love your wives; Wives respect your husbands

III. Parents and Children

Ephesians 6:1-4 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 "HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER," which is the first commandment with promise: 3 "THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU AND YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH." 4 And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

- A. Children obey your parents in the Lord, this is right(eous)
- B. Honor your Father and Mother
- C. First commandment with promise (Exodus 20:12)
- D. That it may go well with you and you may live long on earth

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- E. Fathers do not provoke your children to wrath
- F. Raise them in the training and discipline of the Lord

IV. Bondservants and Masters

Ephesians 6:5-9 Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ; 6 not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, 7 with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men, 8 knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free. 9 And you, masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own Master also is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him.

- A. Servants (workers) obey your masters (superiors, bosses)
- B. Do so with reverence and sincerity, just as you would Jesus
- C. Not as men-pleasers but as if you were serving the Lord (Col 3:23)
- D. As you work unto the Lord, He will reward you
- E. Masters also do your work unto the Lord
- F. Do not threaten your workers, knowing that Jesus is your master and He is not partial in judgment to you (because you're a human boss)