

Oxford Baptist Church
Pastor Robin W. Pifer

2019 Theme: transformed for Christ's glory.
5:21-23 – “The Greatest Need of a Man.”

Ephesians

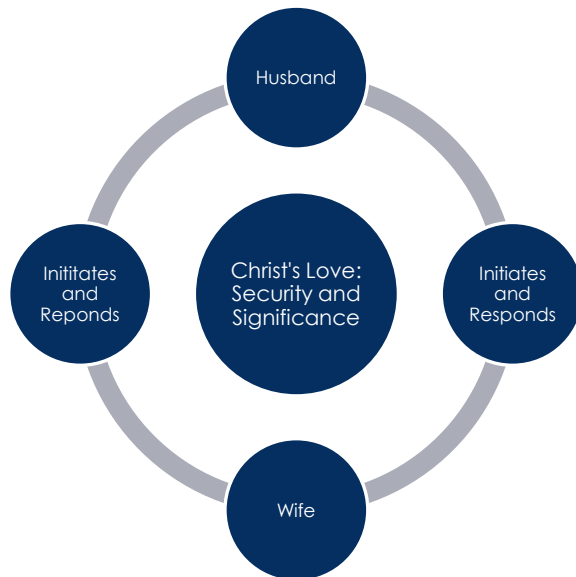
v. 21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

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

- Singleness and Marriage.

The Goal of God's design for marriage is Oneness. Spiritual Oneness, Soul Oneness (Mind, Will, Emotions), Physical Oneness. Grace, Commitment and Acceptance.

Marriage is the total commitment of the total person for total life. - H Norman Wright Not 50/50 but 100/100 – Three Sides of Love – Passion, Intimacy and Commitment.



The Greatest Need of a Man is Love that is _____.

How does a woman love a man?

Victor Hugo - Men have sight; Women have insight. (Initiation and Response)

Gen 2: 18 It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him. (Helper - to aid or to assist- Hebrew root word - to surround - to protect or aid - archway of protection.)

1. Release Him to Lead but keep your Intuitive Challenge.
2. Encourage Him rather than put him down. Hebrews 3:13; 1Thess 5:11
3. Minister to Him rather than Manipulate Him. Eph 4:15
 - **Turn Your Back on Manipulation -1Peter 3:1-12**
 - **Make a Commitment to Minister rather than Manage Him.**

- What are my husband's greatest needs, and how can God use me to meet them?
- In what ways do I need to grow and develop to minister more effectively?

"The husband's priority is to provide, protect, and nurture. The wife is first to nurture, then protect, then provide."
(Marriage that Works – Chip Ingram p. 160)

- **Affirm his right choices and appeal to His right Values.**
- **Talk about the legitimate needs that you both have.**

The greatest priority of a woman - stay close and grow in the Lord. You need God's Help. "Submission or respecting is not about trusting your husband but trusting God to lead your husband." Five relational objectives. 1. Make time with God, your number one priority. 2. Pray for your husband regularly. 3. Plan for him daily. 4. Prepare for him daily. 5. Protect your time with him. (Ingram p. 165)

Proverbs 31:10- 11 A wife of noble character who can find?

She is worth far more than rubies.

¹¹ Her husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.

Life Group Questions.

1. Take time to review the last couple of messages regarding Submission and Oneness.
2. Whether we remain single or married, what kind of lifestyle are we seeking before the Lord? (Review Ephesians 5)
3. Discuss the diagram in the notes. If we are initiating Love that is secure and significant to our married partner, what happens? What happens when we initiate something else?
4. What is the greatest need of a man in marriage? Discuss this need.
5. Which of the five practices is a strength for you, a wife or a single woman? Which one do you need to grow in as a Woman?
6. Why is it important for older/mature women in our congregation to encourage and be an example for younger women in our church?
7. What challenged you the most in this message?