Oxford Baptist Church – May 1, 2016 - Pastor Robin W. Pifer
Series: Relationships: Improving Our Connections
Message: The Greatest Need of a Man
Scripture: Ephesians 5:21-33; 1Peter 3:1-6

The Pursuit of a healthy Marriage begins with understanding Oneness.

- Spiritual Oneness
- Soul Oneness
- Physical Oneness

The godly husband is "concerned about how he may please his wife" and the godly woman is "concerned about how she may please her husband" (1Cor 7:33-34).

What is the Greatest Need of a Man?

1) The Lord Created Men to Desire Respect. (Eph 5:21 -24; 33; 1Peter 3:1-6)
    - Respect or Significance
    - Admiration and Encouragement – 1Thess 5:11; Hebrews 3:13
    - Place of Peace – Oasis – Romans 12:18; 1Peter 3:8-12
    - Acceptance – Romans 15:7
    - Emotionally Safe Place
    - Give Leadership and Solve Problems. 1Tim 3:4

"Men Hear Criticism as Contempt; Women feel silence as Hostility." The Crazy Cycle - "Without Love, She Reacts; Without Respect, He Reacts".

"The way to fully love a husband is to respect him in ways that are meaningful to him".

"His love motivates her respect; Her respect motivates His love." The Energized Cycle - Love and Respect, Dr. Emerson Eggeriches.

2) The Lord Respects Men as He deals with them.
    - He sees their God-given potential not their problems.
    - Abraham, Gideon, Simon Peter.

3) The Lord meets the greatest need of Men through Jesus Christ.
    - Warnings – 1Tim 5:8; Malachi 2:15-16; James 1:19-21
    - 1Peter 3:6-8 - Respect and Love – Image of Crystal.
    - Acts 16:31; Romans 10:9-10

Life Group Questions

1. Discuss the difference between men and women. Why do men
2. need respect and why do women need love?
3. How does pursuing oneness in marriage through Jesus Christ reveal the respect and love cycle in a healthy marriage?
4. The greatest need of a man in marriage is respect. How can his wife show love to him through respect?
5. Read and discuss the quotes from Dr. Emerson Eggeriches book, **Love and Respect.**
6. How does the world and fantasy (Prince and the Princess) develop the "Crazy cycle" of relationships?
7. How does 1Cor 7:33-34 build on the energized cycle of a healthy marriage?
8. How does God deal with men? What are some Biblical ways God deals with godly men? What are some ways he deals with evil men?
9. The Lord Jesus Christ meets the greatest need of Men? What is that need? How does he meet this need?
10. How can men and women get right with Jesus Christ?
11. What was the biggest take away from this message for you; either as a man or as a woman?