

family matters

The Ideal Marriage – Ephesians 5:21–33

House Rules (Ephesians 5:21–6:4)

“Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.”
Ephesians 5:21

These house rules were revolutionary!

1. Paul _____ women and children.
2. Paul focuses _____ on the person in power.

The Ideal Marriage (Ephesians 5:22–32)

Wife: **yield** to your husband (vv. 22–24).

This submission is: _____

and _____.

Husband: **love** your wife (vv. 25–28, 33).

This love is: _____

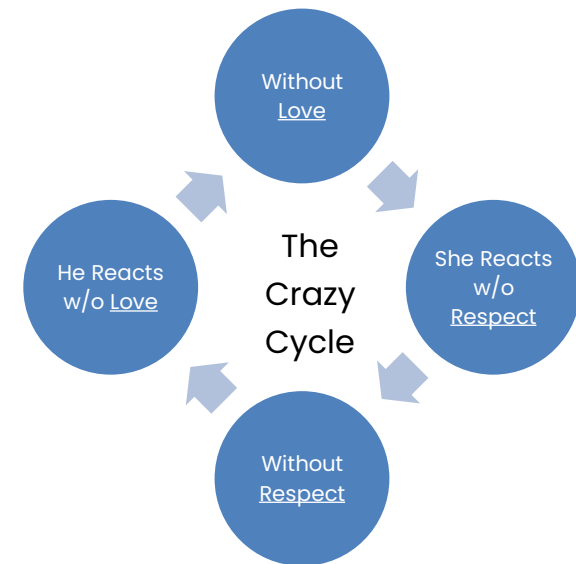
and _____.

Marriage is a **metaphor** of our relationship with Christ (vv. 25b–32).

Love & Respect (Ephesians 5:33).

The wife’s deepest need is to know she’s _____.

The husband’s deepest need is to feel _____.



Moving Toward the Ideal

1. Reverse the crazy cycle: show love & respect
2. Memorize Ephesians 5:21 – *“Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.”*

Family Matters: The Ideal Marriage

Sermon on October 8, 2023

Ephesians 5:21-33

Getting to Know Me

1. Who was your first big crush?
2. Describe a marriage or family that you're acquainted with and respect. What do you admire most or want to model in your own relationships?

Digging Deeper

3. What hit home or challenged you through Pastor Phil's message this past Sunday?
4. Read Ephesians 5:21. In your own words, how would you sum up this "mutual submission out of reverence for Christ?"
5. Read Ephesians 5:22-24. What does our culture say about this verse? How have you felt about this verse in the past and how might it have been changed over the course of time and/or through Phil's teaching?

When you read these verses in light of Ephesians 5:21, how does this change the meaning for you?

6. Read Ephesians 6:25. Who do you think has the more difficult responsibility: husbands or wives? How does the love and submission work in an ideal marriage? How does it work in your marriage or marriages you've observed?

7. Reread Ephesians 5:21-33. Why do you think women are called to *respect* and men to *love* in this passage? Does that mean men don't need love and women don't need respect? How are they the same and how are they different?

8. Phil made the comment that marriage is a metaphor of our relationship with Jesus Christ. In what ways do you think this is true?

9. Read Job 22:21-23 and Proverbs 3:5-6. What are the blessings that come from submitting to God? Do you find it easier to submit to God or to your spouse? Why? What is difficult about submitting in each case?

Where Do I Go from Here?

10. **If you're single**, how does this scripture impact your view of marriage? What can you do now to become the kind of man or woman described in these verses?
11. **If you're married**, take an honest look at your marriage. Where do you need to love more thoroughly? How can you give respect more authentically? Where do you need to submit? Where do you need to give your spouse more grace?

Prayer

"God, thank you for your sacrificial love that both saves us and models for us how to live. Give us your strength to honor You in our marriage."

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Ephesians 5:21

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1. Paul elevates women and children.
2. Paul focuses responsibility on the person in power.

The Ideal Marriage (Ephesians 5:22–32)

Wife: **yield** to your husband (vv. 22–24).

This submission is: mutual,
covenantal,
and voluntary.

Husband: **love** your wife (vv. 25–28, 33).

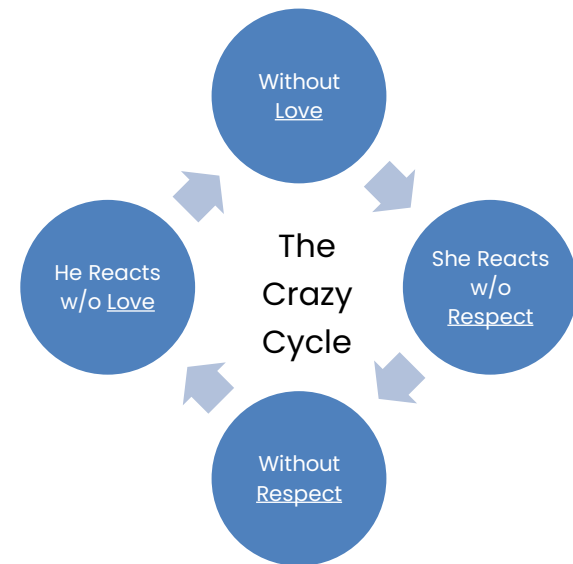
This love is: Christ-like,
sacrificial,
and covenantal.

Marriage is a **metaphor** of our relationship with Christ (vv. 25b–32).

Love & Respect (Ephesians 5:33).

The wife’s deepest need is to know she’s loved.

The husband’s deepest need is to feel respected.



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