

# Life Group Discussion Guide

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
*IN YOUR MARRIAGE*  
Ephesians 5:21-33  
Stuart Jones - May 22, 2016



## INTRODUCTION

Ephesians 5:21 says we should "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." (NIV) Husbands and wives are supposed to demonstrate mutual respect for each other. Human nature makes this seem unnatural, but God calls all of us to be humble enough to do it. If we realize we must first submit to God, it will be easier to submit to our spouse.

Understanding two are better than one, but also having those two in a relationship with God will make the relationship even stronger and our marriages will thrive. As we form a close relationship with each other and God, we create a bond that cannot be broken.

## DISCUSSION STARTER

1. What is the biggest wedding blunder you have ever seen or been a part of?
2. Tell about a situation you entered into with high expectations that were not met (marriage, job, school, sport, hobby, etc.).
3. Why are expectations so powerful and how can they destroy something good?

## EVALUATE IT

1. What other relationship is marriage symbolic of in this passage, Ephesians 5:21-33? In what ways?
2. What is your view of the idea of submission? Is it positive, negative, neutral, or a more complex combination of thoughts? Why do we submit to our spouse?
3. What implication does "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church" have (Verse 25)?
4. How do verses 31-33 summarize His teaching on the unity that is to exist between wives and husbands?

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. Whom do you look to as a good role model for marriage?
2. If you are married, how would you like to grow in your ability to love and submit to your spouse?

## ILLUSTRATION

Four-year-old Suzie had just been told the story of "Snow White " for the first time in her life. She could hardly wait to get home from nursery school to tell her mommy. With wide-eyed excitement, she retold the fairy tale to her mother that afternoon. After relating how Prince Charming had arrived on his beautiful white horse and kissed Snow White back to life, Suzie asked loudly:

"And do you know what happened then?"

"Yes," said her mom, "they lived happily ever after."

"No," responded Suzie, with a frown, "... they got married."

- Cecil Osborne, *The Art of Understanding Your Mate*



Interested in joining or starting a Life Group?  
Contact our Life Groups Minister.

Jason Fox  
270-765-4994  
jason@fccetown.com