

June 7 Discussion Questions

“Self-Sacrificial Love”

Ephesians 5:25-33

Review

MAIN IDEA: Husbands must love their wives as Christ loved the Church.

- A. Jesus is the means to perfect love, so husbands must trust His provision. (5:18)

- B. Jesus is the model of perfect love, so husbands must follow His example.
 - 1. Jesus sacrificed His life for the Church. (v.25)
 - a. Therefore, husbands must provide sacrificially.

 - 2. Jesus sanctified the Church. (v.26-27)
 - a. Therefore, husbands must lead spiritually.

 - 3. Jesus protects the Church. (v.30-31)
 - a. Therefore, husbands must protect passionately.

Connect

- 1. Share a time when someone made a sacrifice on your behalf. What did they do? How did it make you feel?
- 2. Share what stories you know from the Bible of people who self-sacrificed. What sacrifice did they make? What fruit did it produce?

Read Ephesians 5:25-33

Discuss

- 3. What other relationship does Paul compare marriage to in this passage? What reaction do you have to this?
- 4. What is the purpose of marriage? How does this affect the way Christians approach marriage?
- 5. How does the Good News of the Gospel bring good news to hurting marriages? How has the Good News of Jesus brought healing to your marriage?
- 6. Read Ezekiel 16:6-8. What does this communicate about God’s relationship to us?
- 7. Now read Ezekiel 16:15-16. What happened in God’s relationship with us? How has God proved His unending commitment to Israel and now the Church in spite of such rebellion?
- 8. How is Jesus’ love for the Church expressed in this passage? How are husbands called to respond?

9. What does it look like for a husband to be the spiritual leader in his home? How have you struggled with understanding this?

Apply

10. Husbands and wives, how does the greater purpose of marriage challenge you to adjust the practice of your marriage?
11. Husbands, what is one way you can become a better spiritual leader in your home?
12. Husbands and wives, what does it mean for you to “nourish” your marriage? What is something you can do to further enrich your intimacy in the days to come?

Pray

13. **Weekly Prayer Focus from Prayer Team**

Personal: Pray for husbands, with the Spirit’s enabling power, to love their wives as Christ loved the church. *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.* Ephesians 5:25

Ministry: Pray for Oakwood’s VBS Soccer Camp, June 29 - July 2. Pray that the Gospel message will be clearly understood by the students who attend.