



May 8, 2022 | Ephesians 5:21-33

## BIG TRUTH

**A gospel-driven, spirit-filled marriage honors God,  
follows the example of Jesus, and makes much of Jesus.**

### **BIG IDEA 1 - Marriage is God's Idea, God's Design & God's Gift**

- Cultural Mythology: Do we even need marriage anymore?
- Biblical marriage seems ANCIENT!
- Marriage is NOT about love & happiness!

*The love of Christ is the most amazing thing under heaven. How often have I said to you that if I had heard Christ pitied us, I could understand it. If I heard that Christ had mercy upon us, I could comprehend it. But when it is written that he actually LOVES us, that is quite extraordinary to believe sometimes. Who can fully understand such an idea? HE LOVED ME & gave Himself FOR ME! A miracle. - Charles Spurgeon*

### **BIG IDEA 2 - Gospel Driven Wives Are Spirit-Filled**

- The whole Christian life is a life of submission. The wife is called to SUBMIT to the husband that is WILLING TO DIE for her!

*The wife's submission is but another aspect of love...what does it mean to submit? It is to give oneself up to somebody. What does it mean to love? It is to give oneself up for somebody. - John Stott*

- To submit is to put the will of the other ahead of your will. To love is to put the needs of the other ahead of your needs.
- Biblical submission doesn't mean you're a doormat, unable to offer opinions or express disagreement with a husband's view.
- Biblical submission isn't about ability, but order. If her husband has any sense, he will listen to her, delegate certain responsibilities & decisions for which she is better suited than me.
- BUT the husband will bear the ultimate responsibility in the marriage.

## **BIG IDEA 3 - Gospel Driven Husbands are Spirit-Filled**

### **1. Sacrificial Love**

James 1:14-15 - But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

*Don't be passive in things that have eternal significance while you're assertive in things that don't.*

### **2. Serving Love**

### **3. Sanctifying Love**

### **4. Satisfying Love**

*Two principles in sex when thinking on this passage:*

- the partner who desires more sexual activity may need to recognize their spouse is offering all they can in their circumstances or season of life
- the partner who is more reluctant may need to remember that in getting married, they were promising to do their best to serve their spouse sexually

## **BIG IDEA 4 - The Church & The Gospel are on display**

- Marriage points us to a Savior
- Marriage is a demonstration of the Gospel
  - He loved the church (v. 25)
  - He gave himself up for her (v. 25)
  - He sanctified her (v. 26),
  - He provides & cares for the church (v. 29).
  - He forgave us.
- God's Covenant with His people and the relief of the Gospel

**Hosea 3:1-3** And the Lord said to me, "Go again, love a woman who is loved by another man and is an adulteress, even as the Lord loves the children of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love cakes of raisins." **2** So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a lethech of barley. **3** And I said to her, "You must dwell as mine for many days. You shall not play the whore, or belong to another man; so will I also be to you."

**Revelation 19:7-8** Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; **8** it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"