

Strengthening Your Marriage Seminar

The Role of the Husband (Session #2)

The God ordained leadership role for the man in marriage is impossible to fulfill by natural means. The command in Ephesians 5 :25 that husbands are to love their wives as Christ loved the church can only be fulfilled through God's presence and power (Col. 3:19; Jhn. 15:5; Phil. 2:13,4:13; 2Tim. 1:7). Some simple equations will serve as illustrations.

1. Jesus Christ + Nothing = Everything

We are complete in Him (Col. 2:9-10). We have every spiritual blessing (Eph. 1:3). We have all things for life and godliness (2Pet. 1:3). Jesus Christ gave His life **for** me, so that He could give His life **to** me, in order to live His life **through** me (Gal. 2:20).

2. Headship = Responsibility (Matt. 24:45-51, 25:14-30)

Biblical headship is rooted in the creation account in the first two chapters of Genesis. Adam was created first. Eve is created from Adam and his role as leader and she as help mate are established. The roles are reversed in the Fall (Gen. 3:1-13). The apostle Paul (1 Tim. 2:11-15) explains that Adam was formed first and was not deceived. Adam abrogated his responsibility to lead and protect his wife (Eph. 5:22-33). God therefore held him accountable for the sin that entered into the world (Rom. 5:12).

3. Leadership ≠ Lordship

The worlds' idea of headship is to be the "Boss." It is to be "in charge;" to be "in control;" to "lord" it over others. Jesus specifically forbade that type of behavior amongst His followers (Matt. 20:20-28).

4. Headship = Servant hood

The headship Jesus taught His disciples was that of being a servant, for that is who He was (Matt. 20:28; Phil. 2:5-8). He was a living example of servant hood (Jhn. 13 :3-17). Jesus said, "If you love Me, keep My commandments," (Jhn. 14:15). Husbands live in His love and abide in Him as they keep His command to love their wives (Jhn. 15:5, 10, 12). This is possible as we are filled with the Holy Spirit (the context of Eph. 5:17:-33).