

GOSPEL of *Grace*
FELLOWSHIP

Ephesians 5:28-31

Husbands Must Love Their Wives

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The Proper Duty of the Husband

Ephesians 5:28 (LEB)
Thus also husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies. The one who loves his own wife loves himself.

- The word translated “ought” means to owe in the sense of an obligatory duty
- This duty is grounded in Christ’s revealed love, not the presence or absence of certain desirable qualities in one’s wife

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Follow Christ’s Example

Ephesians 5:29, 30 (LEB)
For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as also Christ does the church, because we are members of his body.

- One takes care of his own needs, therefore take action to care for your wife’s
- Christ is the head of the church and cares for the members of His body

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Who Is the Body of Christ?

Believers Church Attendees

Church Consists of the Regenerate Church Consists of Religious Consumers

Living Organism Religious Organization

The distinction between the visible and invisible church holds in both cases

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Leave and Cleave

Ephesians 5:31 (LEB)
“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”

- This is a citation of Gen. 2:24 LXX
- The Greek word for “joined” means “to glue two objects together”
- Both spouses still honor their parents, but the marriage become primary

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Implications and Applications

- Husbands must not poison the love for their wives through bitterness
- Members of Christ’s body must care for one another
- Christ’s laid down life defines love

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Do Not Poison Your Love

Colossians 3:19 (NASB)

Husbands, love your wives and **do not be embittered** against them.

Hebrews 12:15 (NASB)

See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no **root of bitterness** springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled;

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Members of Christ's Body

1 Corinthians 12:24b-25, 27 (NASB)

But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked, so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another....Now **you are Christ's body, and individually members of it.**

- **Christ's love for the members of His body motivates love and care for each other**

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Christ's Saving Act Reveals and Motivates Love

1 John 3:16 (NASB)

We know love by this, that **He laid down His life for us**; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

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