

GOD'S GLORY IN THE HUSBAND'S LEADERSHIP

(Part 3: Ephesians 5:25-33)

Marriage is supremely about reflecting the glory of God's covenant love for His people. Marriage is ultimately about displaying the glory and beauty of Christ's redeeming love for us, His church. **Since the glory of God in Christ is as stake in every marriage, we must honor the God-ordained role of the wife's submission and the husband's leadership.** Reflecting on Ephesians 5:28-33, let's consider the following features of God's glory in the husband's leadership.

- 1. God is glorified in the husband's servant leadership.***
- 2. God is glorified in the husband's steadfast love.***
- 3. God is glorified in the husband's self-sacrificing love.***
- 4. God is glorified in the husband's sanctifying love.***

- 5. God is glorified in the husband's _____.***

The Christian husband's love for his wife should be as instinctive and devoted as his care for and sustenance of his own body (Ephesians 5:28-31). God commands the husbands to nourish and cherish their wives. The term "nourish" means to develop, to nurture, to grow, to feed, to rear or bring up to maturity (Ephesians 5:29; 6:4). As a Christian husband, you are responsible to meet, provide and sustain your wife's physical, emotional and spiritual needs so she would flourish and thrive as a woman and grow each day to be more like Christ. The second term "cherish" means to warm, to comfort, or to take tender care of (Ephesians 5:29; 1 Thessalonians 2:7). As a Christian husband, you must cherish and care for your wife with tender love and gentle affection to give her the comfort and security that she needs. Our Lord Jesus is our ultimate model and pattern as we strive by God's grace to nourish and cherish our wives (Ephesians 5:29-30). The more you cherish and love your wife, the lovelier she becomes. The more you build her up, the more secure she becomes in your love for her.

- 6. God is glorified in the husband's _____.***

Just as our Lord Jesus sacredly, committedly and faithfully loves His church, so must a Christian husband love his own wife sacredly, committedly and faithfully (Ephesians 5:31-33). Upon marriage, a man and a woman leave their parents and establish a new family unit, creating a new union which is called a one-flesh relationship (Genesis 2:24). The husband and the wife are joined together by God Himself and they hold fast to each other in a sacred, holy and committed bond. Such indivisible union points to the profound mystery and glory of Christ's redeeming love for His beloved church (Ephesians 5:32-33). Marriage exists to reflect and display the glory of the eternal love story between Jesus and His precious bride, the church.
