

Applying the Mystery of Marriage
Ephesians 5:21-33

1. MARRIAGE IS A METAPHOR FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH:

1. Husband/wife – two people become one in marriage. 5:31
2. Christ/church – 5:29-30
 - Believers are one with Christ. 1 Cor 6:17
 - Believers compose His church. Believers are members of his body, his arms, legs, voice.

2. CHURCH IS A LIVING ORGANISM BY THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

1. Chris is the initiator laying down His life for us.
John 10:18; Eph 5:23, 26-27
 1. Christ is the head of the body.
 2. He nourishes her by the work of the Holy Spirit. 5:26-27; John 14:16-18, 1 Peter 2:2
2. What happens if the nourishment ceases?
 - If we “fall away”?

3. MARRIAGE IS A LIVING ORGANISM LIKE CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH.

1. Husband cares for wife, he cares for himself because they are one flesh.
 - Eph 5:28; Gen 2:23
2. Christ cares for the church, His members, He cares for Himself. We are the legs, arms, voice.
 - 5:29
3. What happens if the nourishment ceases?
 - If a husband ceases to nourish?

4. TO KEEP MARRIAGE VIBRANT, GOD HAS GIVEN DISTINCT ROLES.

1. Husband is the head, the leader, the initiator, the protector and provider. Eph 5:23
2. The wife is the follower as she yields to His leadership and empowers him to love her. Eph 5:24
3. Impact of the Fall?
 - Husband - ruler, indifferent and lazy;
 - Wife – controlling, doormat, or a rebel
4. Impact of Christ?

WHAT ABOUT MUTUAL SUBMISSION?

- Eph 5:21, and be subject to one another.
 - The result of being filled with the spirit. 5:18
 - Christ in the Upper Room.
- Does not change or impact the need for roles.
- Roles have nothing to do with importance, worth, or inequality.