

The Believer's Family (pt. 6)

The Conflict in Marriage

Ephesians 5:21-33 (NIV)

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word,²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

²⁸In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.

²⁹After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church--
³⁰for we are members of his body.

³¹"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."

³²This is a profound mystery--but I am talking about Christ and the church.

³³However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

The conflict in marriage is based on *hurt and hunger.*

What we need to know:

1. Marriage does not bring us into conflict with our _____, it brings us into conflict with _____.
2. Marriage is not designed to make you _____; marriage is designed to make you _____, and holy people are _____.

What is the problem?

3. We are _____ to _____.
Genesis 3:2-7; Matthew 4:1-11; 1 John 2:15-17; Isaiah 14:13-14.
4. _____ is not the _____ cause of divorce, it is the _____ cause.
5. Selfishness comes in two forms:
 - a. _____: Give me, give me, give me, give me.
 - b. _____: I won't give, I won't give, I won't give, I won't give.

What is the solution?

6. Christ _____ to _____ selfishness in us.
1 John 3:16.

a. _____: live _____ yourself away to your spouse for the

_____ of your marriage:
Ephesians 5:28; 1 Corinthians 7:3-4.

Emotional connection	conversation	time
affection	Sexual fulfillment	domestic support
loyalty	romance	recreational
commitment	intimacy	companionship
	physical touch	

b. _____: live _____ nourishment to your spouse for the purpose of your marriage. **Ephesians 5:29.**

Admiration	Encouragement	Love
Affirmation	Respect	Comfort

c. _____: live bringing _____ to your spouse for the purpose of your marriage. **Ephesians 5:29.**

Love	Patience	Faithfulness
Joy	Kindness	Gentleness
Peace	Goodness	Self-control

7. Know that Love is not a _____ that leads to a _____
but a reaction that _____ to a feeling.

8. Marriage is _____ _____ to break our addiction to selfishness. **Matthew 16:24-25.**

