

Relationship: Understanding the Roles of Husband and Wife

“So God created man in his own image of God he created him; male and female he created them.” Genesis 1:27

Open:

What are your perspectives of the roles of husbands and wives based on what you observed in your family?

Discover:

Read

²¹Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. ²²Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. ²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷and 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... Ephesians 5:21-29

What do we learn about the roles of marriage from Ephesians 5:21-29?

What are the unique functions of a wife?

What are the unique functions of a husband?

“...while those roles differ, that does not mean that one is superior and one is inferior. Both are of equal value and importance. Here me on this point: As far as Scripture is concerned, roles address one’s responsibility not one’s rank.” Rocking the Roles, Lewis and Hendricks

What do you think and feel when you read that the husband is the “head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church?”

How should a husband fulfill this role of “spiritual leadership”?

What does it look like for a wife to submit to their husbands in everything?

How does the command to submit relate to the “suitable helper” reference to Eve in Genesis 2:18?

Where is this easy for you to do in your relationship?

Where is it a challenge?

How can husbands love their wives as Christ loved the church? What does it mean on a day-to-day basis for husbands to “give their lives up” for their wife?

Which should come first, love from husband or submission from wife?

Close

Based on what we have discussed tonight, what are top 3 roles you need to be playing in your marriage?