

Glorifying God in Your Marriage

Mission Bible Fellowship - Marriage Conference
(May 31 - June 1, 2019) Pastor Larry Nelson

SESSION 2 — “The Biblical Mandates of Marriage” (Part 1)

Introduction:

1. The differences between men and women can be _____ and humorous.
2. The roles for the husband and wife are _____ open for either argument or negotiation.
3. Last night we learned from *Genesis 3:16* that many of our conflicts in marriage come from husbands and wives battling over who will be the “King of the Hill.”

Philippians 2:3-4 “Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.”

4. So many of our marriage conflicts would never happen, if we would only _____ ourselves to obeying these commands.
5. Last night we saw in *Genesis 4* how Cain became angry and _____ when he did not get what he wanted.
 - a. Depression is not the result of a “so-called” _____ imbalance in the brain.
 - b. Unless there are clearly defined and measurable medical issues, depression comes from making one self-loving, self-serving, irresponsible choice after another, where we then become angry and bitter when we don’t get to have our own way.

I. Husbands Need to Become Lovers and Spiritual Leaders

Matt 20:25-28 “But Jesus called them to Himself and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. It is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave; just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.’”

- A. As we saw in *Genesis 3:16*, man’s tendency is to _____ over our wives, but God has called us to _____ and _____ them.

1. Brothers — listen carefully to Peter’s command to husbands in:

1 Peter 3:7 “You husbands ... live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.”

2. This text commands us to _____ our wives, so where we must learn to listen carefully, observe attentively, and ask questions constantly.

3. wives are _____ different from men.

a. She is like a precious crystal vase, which is easily _____.

b. Wives can be crushed with an unkind look, tone of voice, or _____ words.

Psalm 66:18 "If I regard wickedness in my heart, The Lord will not hear."

4. There are things that you will never know, unless she is _____ them to you.
5. **"50 Questions to Ask Your Wife."**
6. Most men tend to spell love, "**S-T-U-F-F**" but most wives spell love, "_____".
 - a. "Couch Time"
 - b. "Date Night" doesn't have to cost a bunch of _____.
 - (1) Two or more hours spent together, doing something that you _____ enjoy, with no calls or texts, unless there is an emergency, where you can have extended, uninterrupted conversation together, and kids.
 - c. "Date Night" and "Couch Time" are all about giving yourselves _____ to nurture your "one flesh" relationship.

B. Spiritual Leadership

Ephesians 5:25-32 "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, because we are members of His body. FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH. This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

1. Spiritual Leadership begins with husbands _____ our wives in the same way that Christ loved His church.
2. But because of the *Genesis 3:16* curse, husbands typically want to _____ their wives rather than love them.
3. *Ephesians 5:18* commands us to live under the moment-by-moment _____ of the Holy Spirit.

John 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do – nothing."

Galatians 5:22-23 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control ..."

- a. Loving our wives as Christ loved the church is only possible as we are deliberately living under the moment-by-moment _____ of the Holy Spirit.
4. PHILEO is a reciprocating kind of love which depends on _____ love in return.
5. But AGAPE love _____ without any expectation of getting anything back.

1 John 4:19 "We love, because He first loved us."

6. Holy Spirit empowered loving leadership means that:

- (1) We love first; we love most; and we love _____!
- (2) We are not called to be _____ over our wife.
- (3) We are not called to _____ our wife.
- (4) And we are not called to make _____ of our wife.

7. Spiritual leadership is about setting an _____ for our wife and children to follow.

C. Dealing with our sins against our wife and children

1. when you sin, we need take _____ of what you did or failed to do?

1 John 1:8-10 "If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us."

2. In order for biblically defined reconciliation to take place, we must _____ what we did, which means we need to call it what God calls it.

a. Example: *"I have no excuse for speaking to you with unkindness and anger. I am so very sorry. Will you please forgive me?"*

b. Remember: No one can _____ us mad; no one can make us _____.

(1) Sinful anger is a _____, so when speak unkindly, then we are _____!

(2) We are all born ready to _____ others for our sins.

(a) As the spiritual leader in our home, when we sin, we need to **"man-up"** confess what we did, using biblical terms, express genuine sorrow, and then seek forgiveness from God and the one we sinned against.

(b) We to are to _____ by _____, and that includes not excusing our sin by blaming others for their's.

Ephesians 4:30-32 "Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you."

3. Our forgiveness of others is supposed to look like _____ forgiveness of us.

a. *"The Three Promises of Forgiveness"*

(1) *I promise that I will never bring this sin up again to use it _____ you.*

(2) *I promise that I will never speak to _____ about your sin without your permission.*

(3) *I promise that I will not allow my mind to _____ on your sin.*

Conclusion:

John 10:27 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me"

1. Personal Questions:

- a. Are you the kind, loving, spiritual leader who sets a _____, who makes it easy for your wife and children to follow?
 - b. Are you the kind of husband that causes your wife and children to look forward to you coming home at night?
 - c. Are you the kind of husband who is a _____ to live with or are you a pain?
 - d. Are you the kind of husband who gives careful _____, and who really listens to your wife and children?
 - e. Are you the kind of husband who puts the needs of your _____ before your own?
 - f. Are you the kind of husband who makes it _____ for your wife and children to come to for help, when they need help with a problem?
2. When we lovingly focus on the _____ and well-being of our wife, it makes it so much easier for her to follow our leadership.

Proverbs 19:14 A father can give his sons homes and riches, but only the Lord can give them understanding wives.

Proverbs 31:29 There are many fine women in the world, but you are the best of them all!

- a. If we believe in the sovereignty of God, and we do, then every Christian husband should say this to, and about, his wife.
 - b. We are called to spend the rest of our lives learning how to unselfishly _____ and _____ her, the way our Master loves and leads His church.
3. *The Complete Husband — A Practical Guide for Improved Biblical Husbanding* by Lou Priolo.