

Glorifying God in Your Marriage

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

SESSION 3 — “The Biblical Mandates of Marriage” (Part 2)

Introduction:

1. Last session: Husbands Need to Become Lovers and Spiritual Leaders in the home.

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.”

2. Most conflicts would never happen, if we would commit ourselves to _____ of these commands.

I. Wives Need to Become Suitable Helpers and Completers.

Genesis 2:18 “... the LORD God said, ‘It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.’”

Ephesians 5:22-23 “Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.”

- A. Wives need to _____ what this text actually means.

1. It does not mean that women are _____ to men, or that they just have to keep silent, or that they must _____ obey their husbands, no matter what!

Ephesians 5:18-21 “And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.”

2. Does this sound like a _____?
3. Normal Christian living is supposed to _____ this passage, where believers are putting the needs of others before ourselves.
4. So when God commands wives to be _____, to “submit, to your own husbands ...,” the Greek word here is <hoop-o-tas'-so> which is a military word meaning to “line up under.”
 - a. Just as there is a chain-of-command in the military, so too God has established an order of _____ in the home.
5. Remember the context of this passage, where you have a husband and wife, who are both seeking to _____ their will over to God’s will.
 - a. But the command requiring the wife to submit, which is being spoken of here, assumes that there has been _____, and such disagreements should be extremely _____.

1 Corinthians 7:33-34 "One who is married is concerned about how ... he may please his wife, ... One who is married is concerned about ... how she may please her husband."

- b. So if you are married, it is _____ to be more interested in pleasing your spouse, than pleasing yourself!
6. Most hurts our hurts come from careless _____ and thoughtless _____, not from disagreements over what we should or should not do.
 7. Nelson 1:1 says, "Thou shalt have balance."
 - a. I am not talking about balancing _____ with _____; I am talking about balancing truth with truth.
 - b. On the one hand, the husband has the biblical _____ to make final decisions, but on the other hand, any husband who refuses to listen to the opinions and counsel of his wife is an utter fool!
- B. So far, these sessions have all been about the biblically defined roles of Holy Spirit-controlled husbands and wives, but what do we say to the woman who is married to a disobedient husband, or to an unbeliever who makes no profession of faith in Christ?

1 Peter 3:1-2 "In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior."

1. This is the same Greek word for " _____ " that Paul used in *Ephesians 5:22*.
 - a. Wives are to submit to their husbands, even if they are being " _____ " to God and His Word.
 - b. Balancing truth: *Acts 5:28-29* "... We must obey God rather than men."
 - c. The wife must submit to her husband in all areas, unless to do so would cause her to either _____ her conscience, or the clear teaching of scripture.
 - d. The wife needs to remember that you are not your husband's _____ .
 - (1) Like Queen Esther, you can certainly make a gracious _____ .

Proverbs 14:1 "The wise woman builds her house, But the foolish tears it down with her own hands."

- (2) Foolish women, tear down their house with their own _____ .
- (3) According to *1 Peter 3:1*, if there is any hope for a foolish and disobedient husband, he will not be won over by your words, but by your _____ .

Ephesians 5:33 “Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.”

C. The Amplified Bible, provides all the English equivalents to the Greek word <fo-beh'-o>.

Ephesians 5:33 “... and the wife see that she respects and reverences her husband, that she notices him, regards him, honors him, and that she defers to him, praises him, and loves and admires him exceedingly.”

D. Salvation does not _____ the _____ upon Adam and Eve, and all of us.

1. Wives will battle the temptation to _____ their husbands, and husbands will battle the temptation to _____ over their wives until the day we go home to Heaven.
2. But the wonder of Christian marriage, is that in those _____ where we are deliberately seeking to submit to God and His Word, by the power Holy Spirit’s control in our lives, that curse is _____.
3. The Law of Gravity vs. the greater Laws of Aerodynamics and Horsepower
4. In marriage, the Law of Sin wants to knock us down and keep us down in _____.
 - a. To the degree that we submit to the Word of God by being _____ by the Holy Spirit, we will experience the law and curse of sin being lifted.
 - b. And furthermore, God will be glorified in and through our _____, as the “fruit of the Spirit” is manifested: “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”

II. Our Intimacy in Marriage

A. Successful love-making is about 95% _____ and only 5% technique.

1. Imagine trying to have meaningful intimacy, if your bed is piled up with _____.

B. In these next few minutes, I am going to focus on 11 words.

1. Word #1 is: _____

1 Corinthians 10:31 “Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”

- a. Marital intimacy is _____ of the “... whatever you do ...” and our Lord wants us all to honor Him in and through it.
- b. *Philippians 2:3-4* applies here too, as you “... regard one another as more important than yourselves — not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of ...” your sweetheart.
- c. Pray for wisdom, that God will _____ your spouse through you, and as you do, He will be glorified!

2. Word #2 is: _____

- a. Two books — which provide some basic information:

- i. *Intended for Pleasure* is written by a Christian medical doctor.
- ii. *The Act of Marriage* is written by a pastor and his wife.

3. Word #3 is: _____

- a. God _____ marital intimacy, and so like all of the rest of the His will, it is good, and therefore we should look forward to it.
- b. “Chopsticks” ... to symphonies.
- c. Men: The best love-making does not begin in the bedroom — It begins in the living room and kitchen, with kind, and attentive, and meaningful _____.
- d. Women need massive amounts of _____ mush!

4. Word #4 is: _____

- a. When it comes to intimacy, many couples _____ with communication.
- b. Stuffed hugging monkeys on your spouses pillow.

5. Word #5: _____

- a. Just like biblical revelation is the unveiling of information that we could never know unless God revealed it, there are going to be many things about the desires of your sweetheart that you will never know unless they _____ it to you.
- b. Remember, that kind, trusting communication during the day, is what makes intimate communication and trusting _____ possible.

6. Word #6 is: _____

- a. You need to have a _____ on your bedroom door.
- b. Men are simple, but women are immeasurably _____!
 - i. Most men only need to think about our wife, and we are _____.
 - ii. But a wife’s _____ can involve the temperature of the room, privacy, warm feet, lighting, her over-all feelings about herself, the well-being of the children, whether or not the dryer is still running, is the cat out so he won’t claw at your door
 - iii. If our wives are going to feel prepared, then loving husbands need to be KIND and sensitive and patient, as they attend to their preparations.

7. Word #7 — which is: _____

- a. Successful love-making requires _____, where we are paying attention, and not allowing our mind wander.

8. Word #8 is: _____
- a. “Are there any areas of intimacy that are biblically _____?” “YES & NO”
 - i. Neither spouse should ever seek to engage in activity that would cause the other to be _____ or physically uncomfortable.
 - ii. As you grow in your relationship with Christ and with each other, this will be reflected in your ability to enjoy _____ in your intimacy.
 - iii. But as years turn into decades, physical _____ will hinder you.
9. Word #9 is: _____
- a. Love making is supposed to mutually fulfilling, and _____.
 - b. Starting with our honeymoon, most of us have warm _____ of goofs and foibles, most of which we can't share with others.
10. Word #10 which is: _____
- a. I have never heard of a couple who shared the same _____ for intimacy.
 - i. So what should a couple do with this disparity of _____ need?
 - ii. Think back to *Philippians 2:3-4*.
 - iii. Since you are the only person who can _____ satisfy the physical hunger of your sweetheart, then every Christ-honoring spouse needs to make sure that your other half never has to go _____!
 - b. Is God stingy in rationing out His love to us, or does He _____ lavishly?
 - i. *Ephesians 3:20* He does the “... exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think ...”
 - ii. This is the essence of <agape> love, and it should be foundational to your love-making.
 - c. Thanksgiving at Gramma's: “*Gramma, are you trying to kill me off here?!!! I can't hold another bite!!!*”
 - i. I absolutely believe that this is the lavish spirit of _____ by which every loving Christian spouse should make sure that their sweetheart is never _____.
 - ii. “*Are you kidding me? Are you trying to kill me off here ...?*”
11. Word #11: _____
- a. When it comes to intimacy, there will be times of _____, and there will be other times when nothing seems to work.

- b. We need to express appreciation to God and to our spouse for the _____ loving efforts that have been given to us.

CONCLUSION:

1. This has been a huge challenge, trying to whittle down months of marriage counseling into just a few hours!
2. With that said, I have often been told that sitting under my teaching is like trying to drink from a fire hydrant under full pressure.
3. So assuming that all the recording technology has worked, these three audio sessions, along with full written transcripts, will soon be posted on my web page, which is:

www.kootenaichurch.org/nelson