Husbands and Wives Reflecting Christ Ephesians 5:22-33 (CSB)

Main Point: Husbands are to love their wives as Christ sacrificially loved his church. Wives are to joyfully submit to their husbands as unto the Lord, just as the church submits to her Lord. The marriage is a type of Christ and His bride, and how the husbands and wives relate to one another shows how well they reflect Christ.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Think of your parents and how they demonstrated the meaning of Christian marriage.
- 2. What does Sanctity of Human Life and Respect for Marriage Act have to do with the text?
- 3. Describe God's original design for a home based on Genesis and other Old Testament passages
- 4. What does the word "submit" mean in the context of marriage?
- 5. How can a husband sacrificially love his wife?
- 6. How can a wife show respect to her husband?
- 7. In what ways is your family reflecting the relationship between Christ and the church? What needs to change to be aligned with His will?

8. Write a short prayer asking the Triune God to help you love and serve your spouse in a Christ-like manner. If you are unmarried, write a prayer of how you, as a bride, can be submissive to Christ's leading in your life.

Application:

- a. Husbands, obey and follow the ways of the Lord
- b. Husbands sacrifice your time, energy, and productivity. Don't be passive!
- c. Wives willingly submit to your husbands, pray, encourage, and be a helper to him
- d. For singles who are looking for spouses pray, prepare, look, learn (P.P.L.L.)

Scripture References:

- Genesis 2.18-25, Genesis 3:15-16
- Deut 6:24, 10:13, Numbers 30:1-2, Song of Songs 2:16
- Esther 1:9-18, Jeremiah 42:9, Proverbs 14:1
- Mark 3:24-25, Colossians 3:18
- 1 Corinthians 11:2-9, 7:13-15
- 1 Peter 3.1-7, 5:14, 1Timothy 2.8-15