

**SPIRITUALLY INTIMATE  
MARRIAGE:**

**THE NON-NEGOTIABLE  
INGREDIENT**

**Ephesians 5:21-33**

*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, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.*

*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.*

**-Ephesians 5:22-24**

*In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church—for we are members of his body.*

**-Ephesians 5:25-30**

**WIFE'S SPIRITUAL PICTURE**

**THE CHURCH'S SUBMISSIVE POSTURE TOWARD  
CHRIST**

**HUSBAND'S SPIRITUAL PICTURE**

**CHRIST'S SACRIFICIAL LOVE  
FOR THE CHURCH**

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WHY DID GOD CREATE MARRIAGE ?

CHRIST



*"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.*

--Ephesians 5:31,32

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CHRIST'S SACRIFICIAL LOVE  
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WHY DID GOD CREATE MARRIAGE ?

CHRIST

1. To Reveal Christ's Nature and Attributes

*Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. . . Each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.*

--Ephesians 5:21, 33

WHY DID GOD CREATE MARRIAGE ?

## CHRIST

- 1.To Reveal Christ's Nature and Attributes
2. To Produce the Christlife in Us

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- 1.To Reveal Christ's Nature and Attributes
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### DAMAGING MISCONCEPTIONS

Roles > Relationship

Relationship Negates Roles

### LIFE-GIVING TRUTH

Relationship AND Roles

*All of you, clothe yourselves with HUMILITY toward one another, because,*

*"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."*

*HUMBLE yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.*

"What makes humility so desirable is the marvelous thing it does for us; it creates in us a capacity for the closest possible intimacy with God."

-Monica Baldwin



*Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.*

*Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.*



And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while,

**will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.**

To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

-I Peter 5:7-11