Fearfully Made:
God's Design for Husband and Wife
Part II

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Ephesians 5:22-28

Intro

I. **God's blueprints for marriage** is found in Genesis 2:24, *"For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they shall become one flesh."*

- Marriage is: <u>the total commitment of the total person for the total life.</u>

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- Eph.5:22-24—"submit" is *hupotasso*, meaning to relinquish one's rights; middle voice—voluntarily
- How to submit? (I Peter 3:1-6)

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, 2 as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior. 3 Your adornment must not be merely external—braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses;



4but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God. 5 For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their own husbands; 6 just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, and you have become her children if you do what is right without being frightened by any fear.

I Peter 3:1-6

How to submit? (I Peter 3:1-6)

a. Does not come through nagging or beggaring her husband (vs1).
b. Pure and respectful behavior (vs.2). In her behavior, she demonstrates submission.
c. Godly appearance (vs.3) focused on inward appearance, not external appearance.
d. Attitude and heart (vs.4)—not just going through the duties of a wife, but submissive in her heart.
e. Speech (vs.6) building up your husband with your words, not tearing him down.

A Strong Woman
vs.
A Women of Strength

A Strong Woman vs. A Women of Strength



- **A strong women** works out everyday to keep her body in shape…**But a women of strength** kneels in prayer to keep her soul in shape…
- **A strong women** isn't afraid of anything…**But a women of strength** shows courage in the midst of her fear…
- **A strong women** won't let anyone get the best of her…**But a women of strength** gives the best of her to everyone…
- **A strong women** makes mistakes and avoids the same in the future…**But a women of strength** realizes life's mistakes can also be God's blessings and capitalizes on them…

A Strong Woman vs. A Women of Strength



- **A strong women** walks sure footedly…**But a women of strength** knows God will catch her when she falls…
- **A strong women** wears the look of confidence on her face…**But a women of strength** wears grace…
- **A strong women** has faith that she is strong enough for the journey…**But a women of strength** has faith that it is in the journey that she will become strong.



II. **Marriage is not about finding the right person, but it's about being the right person.**

B. **Husbands**, God says that a husband's distinct role and responsibility is to love his wife the way Christ loves the church. (vs. 25-31)



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- Sacrificial (vs.25) *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her.'*
- *"and gave Himself up for her"*—husband to love his wife so much that he is willing to lay down his life for her if necessary.

B. Husbands, God says that a husband's distinct role and responsibility is to love his wife the way Christ loves the church. (vs. 25-31)

- Sacrificial (vs.25)

  Woman was not made out of man's head to be dominated by him, nor out of his feet, to be trampled upon; but out of his side that she might be equal with him; from under his arm, to be protected by him, and from near his heart to be loved by him.

B. Husbands, God says that a husband's distinct role and responsibility is to love his wife the way Christ loves the church. (vs. 25-31)

- Sacrificial (vs.25)
- Sanctifying (vs.26,27) *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.*

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- Sacrificial (vs.25)
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  Sanctify means to "make holy". This kind of sanctifying love refuses to expose your wife, girlfriend, or sister to any evil by thought or action.

Conclusion

- **Wives**, if your submission to your husband was the only indicator to others of the relationship of the church to Christ, what would it communicate? A voluntary, joyful following of His leadership?

- **Husbands**, if the way you love your wife was the only indicator to others of Christ's love for the church, what would it communicate? A selfless, sacrificial, tender love for her welfare?