

“JUST AS” – THE MARRIAGE KEY” (PART 2)

SERMON NOTES

Ephesians 5:25-33

AGAPE love is at the core of a solid marriage relationship.

How are you loving your wife men? As Christ loved the church?

Why pay attention if I am single/unmarried?

- 1) Agape love is something the whole church is called to exhibit toward one another (Eph 5:2; Rom 12; Jn 13, 15)
- 2) All called to disciple others which includes being able to give godly counsel/advice on love.

1. **Love is the \_\_\_\_\_ for husbands. (vv. 25, 28, 33)**

Note that the majority of this passage is written to husbands, not wives!

What is the standards of husbands in US households? What is Paul’s focus?

vv. 25, 33 – love is commanded

v. 28 – “ought” = strong exhortation

Without agape love...

When we don’t make agape love a priority...

ALL CHURCH called to agape love (Jn 15:12)

2. **Love is a self-sacrificing, caring commitment that seeks the highest good of the \_\_\_\_\_.**  
**(vv. 25-27, 29-30)**

🔑 Marriage key for husbands (vv. 25, 29) – “JUST AS CHRIST” – How did Christ love us?

**He Gave Himself (v. 25) – SELF-SACRIFICING** Jn 10:11, 14-15, 18a; Rom 5:6, 8; Eph 5:2

What gets in the way of this kind of love?

What is the effect of selfish husband?

What picture does he paint to the world?

What do we need to love like this?

**To Sanctify... So That (vv. 26-27) – PURPOSEFUL**

How does our world view love?

Was Christ’s love without purpose?

Men, you haven’t lost your purpose once you got married. Your purpose just changed. Your purpose is your wife’s wellbeing! Study her. Minister to her! (1 Pt 3:7)

### Just as Christ Does the Church (vv. 29-31) – COMMITMENT

How did Christ practically love the church (chs. 1-5 = redeemed, sealed, empowered, united, filled, gifted, loved & sanctified)  
You once said “I will” and “I do” in a commitment to the Lord & to your spouse. Be resolved in that commitment.

3. **Love is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.** (vv. 25, 29)

What conditions did God place on our salvation? See Eph 2:4-5; Rom 5:6, 8

*Love requires an attitude of unconditional acceptance of an imperfect person, not based on her performance, but on her intrinsic worth as God’s gift to her husband.*

Why must love be deeper than infatuation?

Agape love is not dependent on worthiness of the one being loved

Love is initiating (1:4 – chose us; 1:5 – predestined us; 1:7 – redeemed us; 2:4-5 – showed us mercy)

Husbands are to continually initiate and demonstrate self-sacrificing love for their wives regardless of her response.

4. **Love is \_\_\_\_\_; providing, not lazy.** (vv. 28-30)

🔑 Marriage key for husbands in v. 28 – “AS HIS OWN BODY”  
Speaking of the naturalness that comes in caring for oneself.

The two are one flesh – she is united with you. To care for her is to care for you.

v. 29 – terms of responsibility

Nourish – provide food for

Cherish – warmth, comfort, tender care

COMBINED – speaks of husband’s responsibility of caring for his wife’s total wellbeing



## 🔑 THE MARRIAGE KEYS 🔑

- A. TO LOVE YOUR WIFE AS CHRIST DID THE CHURCH – SACRIFICIALLY WITH HER BEST IN MIND
- B. TO LOVE YOUR WIFE AS YOU LOVE YOURSELF – WILL BECOME NATURAL WITH TIME, PURPOSEFUL DEVELOPMENT & GROWTH, AND INTENTIONALITY
- C. TO LOVE YOUR WIFE AS CHRIST CARES FOR THE CHURCH – CARING FOR HER TOTAL WELLBEING ( ESP. SPIRITUAL! )
- D. TO LOVE YOUR WIFE AS YOU LOVE YOURSELF – DUPLICATE MEANT TO DRIVE THE POINT HOME. THIS IS YOUR CALLING, DUTY, RESPONSIBILITY.