

“HUSBANDS, LOVE YOUR WIVES AS CHRIST LOVED THE CHURCH”
EPHESIANS 5:22-33
NOVEMBER 2, 2008

Questions for Study and Reflection

1. Why do you think, as we study Ephesians 5:22-6:9, it's important to remember that (a) we're still talking about worship, (b) Christ is Lord over everything, and (c) God is not calling any of us to do what he himself has not already done?
2. Pastor Charlie said that there are four Greek words for love: *stergo*, *eros*, *philos*, and *agape*. Do you remember what each of them mean? If not, ask someone else to help you and if that doesn't work e-mail Pastor Charlie!
3. Pastor Charlie said that *agape*, the highest form of love to the Greek mind, means both fond affection and unquestionable loyalty. Why do you think these two things summarize the highest form of love?
4. In our culture we have put feelings at the center of love. Why is this a problem? What are the consequences of this decision? How are feelings supposed to relate to love?
5. If feelings are not at the heart of love, then what is? Commitment? Self-sacrifice? Love for God? Explain your answer and show how your answer solves the problems associated with putting feelings at the center of love.
6. Pastor Charlie said that the calling on husbands in Ephesians 5:25 is to love their wives because they first love Christ. It's to imitate their first love by sacrificing themselves for their wives even as Christ sacrificed himself for the church. Do you think this is right? Explain your answer.
7. If husbands are to love their wives as Christ loved the church, Pastor Charlie said that they have to do three things: (a) learn to draw near to God every day, (b) work with God to kill self-centeredness within them, and (c) work with God to breed a God-centered, other-focused attitude within them. How are you doing with these things? What do you struggle with most? What practical steps do you think the Lord would have you take toward these things right now?