

“AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH”
EPHESIANS 5:22-33
NOVEMBER 9, 2008

Questions for Study and Reflection

1. Read Ephesians 5:28-31. Husbands are called to love their wives in a very unique way. In your own words, describe what the Bible is calling forth from husbands here.
2. The word “should” in verse 28 (ESV) literally means “to owe or be indebted, to be bound or obligated to someone or something.” What does this tell you about the strength of the command that’s upon husbands here?
3. Do you think husbands are able to love their wives as Christ loves the church? If yes, where does their ability come from? What does this tell us about how husbands ought to live their lives?
4. Practically speaking, how does Paul define what it means for husbands to love their wives as their own bodies? What does it mean to “nourish and cherish” our own bodies? What does this imply about the love of husbands for wives?
5. Pastor Charlie said that in order for husbands to obey verse 29 they have to take the time to listen to their wives and thus he suggested that husbands and wives take some time to discuss questions like these: How and when shall you seek to understand her needs? What can you do better so that you actually meet more of her needs? How can you work together to free your time so that you can follow Christ in all these things?
6. Pastor Charlie said that verse 31 is the foundational thought of this text. What does it mean for a husband and wife to be “one”? What does this imply for leadership and submission within the marriage? How is physical intimacy in marriage related to this idea?
7. Look up the following texts and then ponder the idea that the design of God for marriage, that is, the headship of the husband and the submission of the wife, pre-dates the fall in Genesis 3 (Genesis 1:27; 2:18; 5:1-2). How should this impact your way of life as husband and wife?