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**SERMON NOTES August 28, 2022**

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Today's notes also available at [CCPL.life/Connect](http://CCPL.life/Connect)

**Ephesians 5:21-33**  
**Sacrificial Servant Leadership**  
**Pastor Mike**

I. God is our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

a. Genders are \_\_\_\_\_

b. God created marriage with \_\_\_\_\_

II. The overarching call to \_\_\_\_\_

III. God's \_\_\_\_\_ to husbands

a. The \_\_\_\_\_ of spiritual \_\_\_\_\_

b. Leading through \_\_\_\_\_

c. Leading to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

d. The call to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

e. The call to \_\_\_\_\_

IV. The \_\_\_\_\_ for sacrificial love

*It is in \_\_\_\_\_ that we find fulfillment*

### Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. Some of the most controversial issues our time are related to gender, marriage, and sexuality. In his message Pastor Mike said that the differing opinions in all these controversial all issues are ultimately rooted in differing beliefs about creation and evolution.
  - a. What do you think he means by this? Do you agree that all these controversies are rooted in the question of creation versus evolution? Why or why not??
  - b. How will we view issues related to gender and the structure of marriage differently if we view it from an evolutionary worldview or a Biblical creationist worldview?
2. Husbands are called to be the spiritual leaders in their home; practically, what does it mean for a husband to be the spiritual leader?
  - a. Women, how important is it to you that your husband acts as the spiritual leader?
  - b. Men, what can you do to better lead your families spiritually?
3. The Bible's teaching about God's call for men to step up as leaders in their home is amongst the most misunderstood and controversial teaching in the Bible.
  - a. How can the Bible's teaching on the husband's leadership in the home be misinterpreted and/or abused?
  - b. Pastor Mike stressed that God's call for men to lead is a responsibility, not a right. What is the difference between these ideas, and why is this an important distinction?
4. One of the challenges facing many men is that they were not raised in a family with a dad who exercised spiritual leadership in his home.
  - a. For men raised without this example, how can we learn to be the spiritual leader in our homes when we've not seen it modeled?
  - b. In your life can you think of a man who has been an example of a good spiritual leader within their home? If so, what traits set them apart as a good example of spiritual leadership? What traits would you most like to emulate in your own life?
5. One the one hand husbands are called to be the spiritual leaders in their families, but on the other hand they are called to love their wives sacrificially, surrendering his will and his needs to the needs and growth of his wife. Many see these calls to serve and to lead as contradictory. Are they?
  - a. How do you harmonize these calls for men to lead and to serve their wives?
  - b. Most men struggle more with one aspect of these two calls. For men who are married, which is harder for you? How can you grow in this area?
6. Ephesians calls husbands to love their wives as Christ loved the church. This responsibility speaks to a woman's greatest need; to be unconditionally loved, accepted, and cherished.
  - a. What does it mean for a husband to unconditionally love and cherish his wife?
  - b. Can a husband truly love his wife if that love is not unconditional? Why or why not?
  - c. Respond to the following statement: "The true nature of our love for our spouse isn't proven until they seem unlovable, and we don't feel the emotions of love."