

# Ephesians 5:21-33

## Extra Questions and Commentaries

### "Be subject to one another" (5:21)

- What did Jesus teach about serving and loving others?
  - Matthew 20:25-28
  - John 13:3-5, 13-15
  - John 15:12-14

### "Wives" (5:22)

- From Proverbs 31:10-31, fill in the chart below with the descriptions of a "virtuous woman."

Character and virtues	Priorities/People she cares for	Her blessing
e.g. vs. 11 - <i>trustworthy</i> vs. 12 - <i>kind</i>	Vv, 11,12, 28b	Vs. 11, 28b
	Vv. 15a, 21, 27, 28a	Vs. 28a
	Vs. 15b	Vs. 30
	Vs. 20	Vs. 31
	Vs. 31	

**FYI:** [Proverbs 31] " provides an 'A to Z' ideal, not to prompt despair that no such woman exists but to encourage the pursuit by every woman to the highest standards of excellence...

The closing verses...comprise a power of praise for a wise woman whose household included servants and vast resources, which would be far beyond the ordinary woman in any generation. Yet the description moves from the inner character of the woman to how this works itself out, covering such an array of giftedness and activities that every woman may find herself somewhere in the portrait...She lifts the standard high and in so doing has been inspiring godly women to excellence throughout the generations."

- Women's Study Bible (824,825)

- What does Proverbs 31 say about the a woman's role compared to the "Victorian notion of frail and incapable females?"
  - What does it say about the value of the work of managing a home and family? (In what activities does she engage? How do her attitudes and activities relate to her family?)
  - State Proverbs 31:10-12 in your own words.
  - Compare Ephesians 5:22 with Proverbs 31:30b
  - List three ways you think your husband/friends/family would commend you.
  - What characteristic did you find most convicting about the woman of Proverbs 31? In what way(s) would you like to model her?

### **"Husbands" (5:25)**

- What other instructions are given to husbands in:
  - Colossians 3:19b
  - I Peter 3:7 (*Note: "weaker" refers to sheer physical strength*)
- What qualifications for leadership did Paul give in 1 Timothy 3:2-5?

**“And the two shall become one flesh” (5:31)**

- What did the law teach about sexual relations?
  - Leviticus 18:6-18
  
  - Leviticus 18:20 (See also Exodus 20:14)
  
  - Leviticus 18:22-23
  
  - Leviticus 19:29 (See also I Corinthians 6:15-16)
  
- What kind of protection/safety/dignity... do you see in these laws?
  
- Why did the nation of Israel need to be taught these things?  
Leviticus 18:3,4

***Digging Deeper***

Read Proverbs 5:3-14; 6:24-32, 7:6-27 for graphic descriptions of the lure of adultery and its consequences.