A Study of Ephesians





Ephesians Applications

Live a life worthy of the calling you have received | 4:1

Put off the old self and put on the new self | 4:22-24

Live in love, walk in light, walk in wisdom | 5:1-16

Be filled with the Holy Spirit | 5:18



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Ephesians 5:21 NIV

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.





Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives submit to husbands 5:22-33

Husbands love your wives sacrificially

Children submit to parents 6:1-4

Fathers do not exasperate your children

Slaves submit to masters 6:5-9

Masters treat servants fairly





Ephesians 5:22-24 NIV

Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.





Genesis 2:18 NIV

The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

1 Corinthians 11:3 NIV

But I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.





Ephesians 5:22-24 NIV

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Equality of Distinction of Role Personhood

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"Ephesians presents men and women in an ordered equality in which there is no superiority or inferiority - simply differing roles."

- Kent Hughes, Ephesians: The Mystery of the Body of Christ





Genesis 3:16 NIV

To the woman he said, "I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."







What Headship is not

- Domination
- Tyranny
- Superiority
- Privilege

What Submission is not

- Blindly Following
- Lacking Contribution
- Inferiority
- Inequality





Ephesians 5:25-27 NIV

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.





Leadership in the home is...

- about responsibility not rank.
- about serving and sacrifice.
- about answering to God for the health of your home.
- about dying to self for the benefit of your spouse.





"If 'headship' means power in any sense, then it is power to care not to crush, power to serve not to dominate, power to facilitate self fulfillment, not to frustrate or destroy it. And in all this the standard of the husband's love is to be the cross of Christ."

- John Stott, The Message of Ephesians





Mark 10:42-45 NIV

Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."





Ephesians 5:28-30 NIV

In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church ³⁰ for we are members of his body.





A life-giving marriage requires dying to self.





Ephesians 5:31-32 NIV

"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." 32 This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

