

Lesson 10: R-E-S-P-E-C-T

Intro:

Big Idea: Respect is necessary to _____ a husband's _____.

“While many people fight to receive respect, Christian marriage calls us to focus our efforts on giving respect.” **Gary Thomas**

³¹ “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” ³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. ³³ However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband. **Ephesians 5**

Life Thru Union

- The focus is not so much on the love, but the _____ of that love.
- Paul quotes _____, but this applies to the marriage of _____ & the _____.
- Our union as husband & wife is a _____, _____ of this greater union.
- Paul uses Genesis 2 _____: it points to something greater- _____.
- In our married lives, and spiritual life much of our time is _____ & uneventful.
- There are moments of great _____, and moments of great _____.
- The focus in both is not those moments but the fact of the _____ we experience.

“... by the power of his Spirit, he makes us part of his body, so that from him we derive our life. ... The great mystery is, that Christ breathes into the church his own life and power.” **John Calvin**

Love Produces Respect

- Fear: _____ fear (see 5:21 noun) Synonyms include _____, honor and respect.
- In vs. 33, the command to love is “in _____ that” she might respect her husband.
- Her respect is an appropriate _____ to his self-sacrificing _____ for her.
- A lack of _____ for a husband often reveals a lack of _____ by a husband.
- A husband that consistently _____ his wife will usually receive her _____.
- A lack of respect could reflect the _____ condition of the wife: not filled w/Spirit.
- A spiritual _____ woman will seek to respect her spiritually maturing husband.

“As our partners and their weaknesses become more familiar to us, respect often becomes harder to give. But this failure to show respect is a sign of spiritual immaturity more than an inevitable pathway of marriage.” **Gary Thomas**

- Women have always had the power to _____ or _____ their husband’s dignity.
- An _____, grateful wife remembers he can’t do everything & affirms what he does.
- A _____, _____ wife _____ him as a husband, father, lover, provider.

¹³ A foolish son is ruin to his father, and a wife's quarreling is a continual dripping of rain.

Proverbs 19

⁹ It is better to live in a corner of the housetop than in a house shared with a quarrelsome wife.

Proverbs 21

¹⁵ A continual dripping on a rainy day and a quarrelsome wife are alike; ¹⁶ to restrain her is to restrain the wind or to grasp oil in one's right hand. **Proverbs 27**

What keeps women from expressing respect?

The Power to Respect

- The _____ to consistently respect a husband (or anyone else) is beyond us.
- Our culture _____ the _____ of men, and most women have been taught this.
- Their own _____ resists giving respect to another, focusing on their faults.
- Christ, and Him crucified, _____ in us by the power of the Spirit to _____ us.
- Christ works in us to _____ us to God’s original _____ for God’s glory.
- The Christian life is a _____ - _____ life: Christian marriage is too.
- The Spirit may use the love & nurture of the husband to _____ respect in a wife.
- Ps 130: God is to be feared because there is forgiveness with Him. A forgiving husband.
- “Reckless forgiveness” is granted to a woman who struggles with & against her own sin.
- Titus 2 indicates that older women are to teach younger women how to live this way.

Restoring His Dignity Thru Respect

- As a husband “*nourishes and cherishes*” his wife, he _____ her dignity.
- She doesn’t restore his by nourishing & cherishing him. That is _____ him!
- Respect is a husband biggest _____; it is tied to _____ in his primary calling.
- She needs _____ to fulfill her primary calling to “*fill the earth.*”
- Called to “*subdue and rule*” respect tells us “you’re good at what you do”: competence.

Marriage: A Practical Theology

- Competence is not the same as _____. You can be competent but not successful.
- Respect is about _____, doing the right _____ for the right _____.
- A man without respect often becomes _____ by his basest passions: sex & violence.
- The _____ wife (Prov. 31) helps restore a husband's dignity through respect.

Respect His Authority

- We are all to _____ to proper _____, showing respect to all to whom its due.
- God placed the husband as the _____ head of the family.
- To undermine or criticize a husband is to _____ against the One who put Him there.
- To gently call a husband to _____ of his sin is _____ to undermine or criticize.
- How she _____ to her husband will teach her children how to _____ to authority.
- Your marriage will shape the marriage of many _____ of _____.

Release Your Expectations

- Expectations are _____ standards, often unspoken, you _____ on other people.
- These expectations are related to your _____, not God's, where you're _____.
- _____ expectations are the seedbed of criticism which feeds the beast of _____.
- Grace lays aside our expectations so we can _____ our husbands as God received us.
- Grace reminds us we both _____ in God's kingdom, not our own. His _____, not ours.

Express Gratitude

- Sanctification in Ephesians is taking _____ the old man & putting _____ the new.
- If we take off _____, we should replace it with expressions of _____.
- We can choose to focus on what is _____, or focus on what is _____.
- Search for those _____ of _____ that remain and express gratitude for them.
- Thank him for the hard _____ he does in providing for the family.
- Thank him for the times he _____ out around the house with chores.
- Thank him for the times he helps out with the _____, either play or _____.
- Expressing gratitude is more likely to change behavior than endless _____.

What are other ways women can express respect to their husbands?