

Lesson 8: Love Her Madly

Intro:

“Do you love her madly, want to be her daddy,
Do you love her as she’s walking out the door,
Like she did a thousand times before.”³

Big Idea: _____ your wife meets her _____.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. **Ephesians 5**

Love: A Woman’s Greatest Need

- Paul tells husbands to “_____” (AJGAPAW) their wives _____ times.
- **Marva Dawn:** In Asia Minor men “loved” (EJRO~ or _____ eroticism) prostitutes.
- They “cared for” (STORGHV or family love) their _____.
- They “highly _____” (QILEW- bonds of common interest) _____.
- The mystery of _____ includes the need to know that they are _____.

“This means that Christ loves the church first and foremost: his love is not a response, given only when the church loves him; his love comes first, and we only love him because he first loved us (1 Jn. 4:19). That dynamic is also to be replicated in marriages, husbands being the heads of their wives, loving them as Christ the Head loves his bride the church. He is the love; she is the beloved. Like the church, then, wives are not left to earn the love of their husbands, they can enjoy it as something lavished on them freely, unconditionally and maximally.” *Michael Reeves*⁴

- The foundation of all true spirituality & godliness is that God loved us _____.
- Apart from a _____ in his love, she will seek to _____ his love.
- Convinced of his love, she will have a _____, _____ love for her man.
- Her service is a _____ of love, not an attempt to _____ love.

Love as Jesus Loved the Church

- _____ shows _____ what their love is supposed to look like.

³ “Love Her Madly” by Robby Krieger. 1971 WMG.

⁴ *Delighting in the Trinity*. IVP, pp. 28-9.

Marriage: A Practical Theology

- A husband has to be _____ of God's love for him in Christ to love his wife well.
- A husband has to _____ his wife if he is to love her well.

Love Sacrificially

- He "*gave himself up for her.*" He willingly gave His _____ for her _____.
- He bore the _____ to remove the _____ from her. He bore her sin.
- To love here well is to willingly _____ for her well-being. _____ not just words.

What do you we should consider sacrificing for the well-being of wives?

Love for Her Benefit

- He provided her with what she needed to _____, to _____.
- Jesus provided _____, acceptance, the power of the Spirit in _____.
- We often "sacrifice" to buy her stuff that we _____ to give her: cars, homes, _____.
- We may choose to sacrifice our _____ _____ for her _____.

Love Makes Her Special

- Jesus _____ her or set her apart as special to himself. He made her _____.
- Marriage begins by a man _____ one woman _____ for a special, exclusive place.
- We continue to treat her as special by _____ her before other people.
- There are many ways to communicate that she is your _____, not your _____.
- He set her apart by _____ her. Sin _____ us.
- Christ _____ us clean by His blood, which is represented in _____.
- We don't _____ our wives but husbands have a ministry of the _____.
- Sharing may be _____ as you share how _____ to walk in faith.
- A husband's _____ to his wife shape the _____ of her life: life or death?
- Admonishment ⇔ Affirmation Correction ⇔ Edification

Love Restores Dignity

- Jesus' love makes the church _____, without spots or wrinkles or _____.
- Husbands _____ their wives' dignity. Good husbanding is better than _____.
- Husbands also _____ their wives to use gifts they see are undeveloped.
- Husbands can nurture their wives by fulfilling _____.

Marriage: A Practical Theology

- Your wife may _____ your efforts to help her grow & mature.

Love Resists Depravity

- A husband who loves his wife well will _____ her _____
- He doesn't drown her in _____ & condemnation but points her to gospel _____.
- Sometimes a husband has to say "no" risking her wrath when her desires are _____.
- This is not about getting your way, but pursuing her _____ in _____.
- Gently _____ your wife, _____ them by pointing her toward God's grace.

"Husbands ... repent from self-will and from serving the other's will, so that you can serve the other's well-being before God." **David Powlison**

Obeying self ⇔ Obeying Christ ⇔ Obeying her

Women, when do you feel most loved?

Conclusion: