

Home Group Questions

the week of 2/19/2012

Various Scriptures

AWESOME HOME MAKEOVER

GETTING STARTED...

This past Sunday, Pastor Mel continued the new series, which focuses on marriage and the home. This week our study focused on the biblical roles of a husband and wife in the marriage. Pastor Mel shared that God has a plan for the structure and organization of our families and has established clear roles for the husband and the wife!

LOOKING IN THE WORD...

1. **Read Ephesians 5:21-30.** Why do you think Paul begins with the role of the wife rather than highlighting the role of the husband first?

- How might that impact the wife who says, "I'll submit to my husband when he loves me like Christ loved the church," (in essence stating that when he's a perfect husband, then she'll submit)?

- Wives are called to submit to their husbands as "unto the Lord." What do you think the phrase "as unto the Lord" means?

2. Pastor Mel shared that to love like Christ means that husbands should do four things listed below. Discuss these aspects of leadership and what each one means to you in practical, real-life, day by day actions/attitudes:

- 1) Lead with a sacrificial, servant's heart. v25
- 2) Serve with the interests of your wife and kids above your own. v. 2
- 3) Nourish with a commitment to meet your wife's needs. v. 29-30
- 4) Cherish with a passion to protect and honor your wife. v. 29-30

- **Read Ephesians 5:26-28.** Jesus was making the church holy and clean so that He could present the church as a glorious church. What do these verses say about the role of the husband as he relates to his wife?

3. **Read the following verse from 1 Peter 3:7** *"In the same way, you husbands must give honor to your wives. Treat your wife with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your equal partner in God's gift of new life. Treat her as you should so your prayers will not be hindered."*

- Paul refers to women as being weaker than men, which is a reference to the fact that the physical strength of a man is generally greater than that of a woman. This statement reminds us that this has nothing to do with how a man is to lead. Giving honor to his wife and living with her in an understanding way is how husbands are to lead.

-What are some practical ways in which a husband can show honor to his wife?

- How can a woman respond in godly ways to the efforts of a husband to live with her in an understanding way? What are some bad things a woman can do to discourage a husband from leading the family and honoring his wife?

4. Discuss the list below and ask for other ideas to strengthen the spiritual and relational life of your marriages:

Take-Home Builder Checklist: (circle at least 2 you can work on)

- **Model love for God's Word and prayer.**
- **Pray for your spouse daily.**
- **Pray as husband/ wife together for your family.**
- **Pray with your kids at night, reviewing the day.**
- **Have worship/Christian music filling your home.**
- **Have regular family devotions.**
- **Lead your family in memorizing God's Word.**
- **Have family mission statement visible & read.**
- **Look for teachable moments to bring in the Lord.**
- **Teach your kids discernment in media, activities.**
- **Develop family values (honesty, respect, etc.).**
- **Write notes of encouragement to wife/kids.**
- **Discuss what you heard at church & how it applies to you.**