

# *the* TAKE HOME 08.09.15

## Today's Scripture Passage: Ephesians 5:21-33

P 829 Pew Bible

**21** Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. **22** Wives, submit to your husbands as 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. **25** 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. **28** 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 his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church-- **30** for we are members of his body. **31** "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. **33** However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

## Questions for Reflection & Discussion

1. Why is submission to one another so essential to a "worthy" marriage?
2. How can a man love his wife as Christ loves the Church?
3. Why do you think Paul draws an analogy between marriage and the Church? Is it a good/fair one? Why?
4. Cite some ways you have "submitted" (married or single) to another in the past week. What was your motivation? The result?
5. How might a wife show "respect" to her husband?
6. What do you think the reason is that Paul says the husband should love (security) his wife and the wife respect (significance) the husband?

## Pray:

1. Our marriages might be "worthy" analogies of the Church
2. Our church might be "progressing" in healthy ways through its transition
3. Our Elders and other leaders in our fellowship
4. Our Family Week