

# Love Ephesians 5:22-33

## Getting Started

1. If you're married, what has the word "love" come to mean to you? Has your view of "love" changed over the years? How?
2. What's the strangest/silliest thing you've ever seen or heard of someone doing in the name of "love"?

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## In the Word (Eph. 5:22-33; Col. 3:18-19; 1 Peter 3:7)

Groups are not expected to discuss all questions!

1. Skim Ephesians 5:1-21 and Colossians 3:1-17. What is the setting of these passages? How do the instructions to husbands and wives relate to what is found in these earlier verses?
2. (5:25-33) What point(s) is Paul making when he uses Christ's love for the church as a point of comparison for the love a husband is to have for his wife?
3. Why do you think Paul shares this list of actions Jesus took on behalf of his bride, the church? Does this list provide any guidance for the Christian husband? What?
4. Paul compares a husband loving his wife to an individual loving his own body. What is the significance of this illustration? How does it guide actions? How does it relate to his later statement concerning Jesus, the church, and the members of the body?
5. As he nears the completion of this section Paul quotes Genesis 2:24. Why is this significant in this discussion?

## Application

1. It's easy to conclude that no one can love like Jesus, so why try. But that's not the point, is it? Paul called on husbands to love their wives as they loved themselves. Did you notice which great command this resembled? This week, how can you show love to your spouse? Children? Parents?
2. Determine this week to demonstrate your love to your spouse. If you're not married, then it might be a parent, child, or simply a person who needs to know they are loved.

## Prayer Time:

Next Sunday morning we begin our new schedule. The Sunday morning assembly will begin at **9:30**. Bible Classes will begin around **10:45**. The next Sunday the Honduras Mission Team leaves for Tegucigalpa, Honduras **AND** Vacation Bible School begins that morning and then continues each evening through Wednesday (June 8-11, 6:00 – 8:00). That's a lot to pray about.

