TRANSFORMING GRACE IN MARRIAGE ROLES - PART 1

Introduction Eph 5:22-33

A. The mystery of marriage is revealed in the gospel. Eph 5:32

Husbands Love Your Wives in a Christlike Way - Give Her TULIPS Eph 5:25-30

A. Totally commit yourself to loving her. v. 25a.
   1. The world has cheapened the meaning of “love”. 2 Sam 13:4, 14-15

   2. Jesus loved you when you were unworthy of His love. Eph 2:1-3; Rom 5:8, 10;
      1 John 4:10; John 3:16

   3. Christlike love is a commitment to the good of the other person whether or not you think
      that they deserve it. Rom 2:4

   4. Strive to reflect Jesus’ love for you. 1 Cor 13:4-7

   5. Just as God, for Jesus’ sake, looks upon you as if you are perfect, treat her, for Jesus’ sake, as if
      she is a perfect wife. Phil 3:9

   6. God has made you to initiate in love so that she can respond. v. 22; 1 John 4:19
7. Love her from the heart. *Heb 12:2*

B. Unconditionally sacrifice your own interests to meet her needs. *v. 25b*

1. Jesus’ costly love is demonstrated on the cross. *v. 5:2; Gal 2:20; 1 Pet 1:19*

2. Sacrifice your rights and interests for her good. *Phil 2:3-8*

3. Authority is given by God to serve. *John 13:3ff; Matt 20:20-28; Mark 10:45*

4. Do more than your share.

5. Such love may be used by God to help her to respond with much greater love and respect towards you.

C. Limit your love to her alone. *v. 25*

1. Jesus has a special love for His bride, the church. *v. 25a; John 10:11*

2. A husband must remain faithful to his wife – body, affection, and attention.
D. Irresistibly draw her with a love that purifies. vs. 26-27
   1. Jesus powerfully drew you to Himself. Eph 2:4-8; John 6:37,44

   2. Jesus is committed to making you holy. Eph 1:4; Rom 8:29; Phil 1:6; Titus 2:14

   3. This is how you are called to change your wife.

   4. Are you actively pursuing her spiritual growth?

   5. Do you have the courage to make biblical decisions which go against her preferences?
      *Gen 3:6; 16:2; Prov 29:25*

E. Persevere in providing for her every need. Eph 5:28-30
   1. The church is Jesus’ beloved body. vs. 5:23; 3:6; 4:12

   2. Love your wife as you love your own body. Gen 2:23

   3. Jesus generously provides for His bride, the church. Eph 1:7, 9; 2:5-6; 3:6, 12; 4:11

   4. Nourish your wife – generously provide for her needs. Gen 3:17ff; 1 Tim 5:8; Exod 21:10; Titus 2:3ff; 1 Cor 7:3-5
5. Cherish her – understanding, patience, gentleness, respect, affection, appreciation. 1 Pet 3:7; Col 3:19; Prov 31:11, 26, 28b-29

6. If you mistreat her, your relationship with God will be affected. 1 Pet 3:7b

F. Steadfastly endure when marriage is difficult.
   1. What if your wife is hard to love? 1 John 4:19; Rom 2:4

   2. What if you don’t have loving feelings towards your wife? Eph 5:1-2, 25; 3:14-21

   3. What if your wife won’t follow your leadership?
Books

Harvey, Dave, *When Sinners Say I Do.*  
Keller, Tim, *The Meaning of Marriage.*  
Scott, Stuart, *The Exemplary Husband.*  
Tripp, Paul, *What Did You Expect?*

Audios

Harvey, Dave. “When Sinners Say I Do – Grace.”  
Harvey, Dave. “When Sinners Say I Do – Sin.”  
Priolo, Lou. “Helping Husbands Lead Wives Who are Reluctant to Follow.”  

Supplemental Resources

“Fifty Questions to Ask Your Wife.”