

Ephesians 5:22-33 The Church Life



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Easy warm-up questions (choose one)

- 1. What is one thing that you are secretly pleased that you don't have to do now that you are social distancing?
- 2. Would you rather never watch another TV show or movie again or never use social media again?

Paul's Marriage Illustration 5:22-31

Take a running start at Paul's illustration by first reading Ephesians 5:21. How does 5:22-33 fit within the "big picture" of Paul's letter to the Ephesians?

Wives, submit to your own husband 5:22-24

- 1. What does Paul mean by "submit"?
- 2. It is usually easy for a wife to submit to her own husband, as to the Lord. AGREE WAFFLE DISAGREE
- 3. What, in Paul's teaching, might make it easier for a wife to submit to her husband?
- 4. How might the example of a wife submitting to her own husband help us to submit to one another as a congregation?

Husbands, sacrificially love ("agape") your wife 5:25-31

- 1. How does Paul illustrate "love" from the love Christ has for the Church?
- 2. It is usually easy for a husband to love his wife as Christ loved the church. AGREE WAFFLE DISAGREE
- 3. What, in Paul's teaching, might make it easier for a husband to love his wife?
- 4. How might the example of a husband loving his wife help us to submit to one another as a congregation?

Paul's Application 5:32,33

- 1. Consider John 17:20-23. What is so mysterious and profound about Christ and the Church?
- 2. Why is submitting to one another so difficult?
- 3. How does the relationship of a wife and a husband (submission and love) illustrate the church's reverence for Christ?
- 4. What, in Paul's teaching, do you personally find helpful as you seek to submit to others at Creekside?

Processing all that...

- 1. Oneness and submission do not happen in isolation. AGREE WAFFLE DISAGREE
- 2. What is the upside of submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.
- 3. What would submission to each other look like for us as a Life Group?