

Notes

God's Perfect Plan For Marriage

- Satan's biggest goal is to offend you with life.
- Why?
 - Last week: so you will not enjoy a life of giving.
 - Today: So you will never know God's plan for your marriage.

A question was asked: In a secular study

Question: How important is a stable marriage for a lifetime to you?

93% say it's very important.

1. People have not lost the dream of a stable marriage, they have just lost **hope**.
 - You don't need to be **afraid** - God has a perfect plan for marriage.
 - * The reason why many fail is if we don't have great **mentors**, we are not taught what marriage is; but you can succeed.
2. Satan hates marriage because it is the **first** institution God made.
 - Marriage is the **cell** of the social soul.

Let me say it this way: It is not God for man to be alone.

Ephesians 5:22-33

²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. ²⁴ Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. ³⁰ For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. ³¹ "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ³² This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. ³³ Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects *her* husband.

I also want to tell you Ephesians 5 is the most **disliked** scripture in the Bible.

In 40 years of ministry, I can count on one hand the amount of people that received Ephesians 5 with **joy**.

Men: Don't in an argument, use verse 22 → it will be a near death experience with the light at the end of the tunnel.

3. For the perfect marriage to resound, you go **first**.

- They don't necessarily refute the Bible regarding them – they just don't want to be first.

Hope is in the scripture in Ephesians 5.

You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free. Make you:

- Free from **fear**
- Free from **failure**
- Free from **anger**
- Free from **disappointment**
- Free to **succeed**

Here is why:

The word sub mission – two words

- sub – come **under**
- mission – a mission or a **plan**

To submit is to come under a planned mission

To love your wife, **lay down** your life for her.

To submit to him – come **under** your anointing.

This is the way to your spouse's **heart**.

Let me give you reasons why Ephesians 5 is the perfect plan for marriage:

A. The roles in Ephesians 5 make us **attractive** to our spouse.

People say don't you put me in bondage and tell me my role or place → God isn't doing that; it is the **key** to your spouse's heart.

4. The number one need of a man is **honor** and **respect**.
- Men gravitate where they get the most **honor**.

Ladies: God designed you to be that **place**.

Let me say this before we continue: In God's heart and scripture, every woman and man are **equal**.

Psalm 100:4

⁴Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, *and* into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, *and* bless His name.

- We enter God with **praise** and **thankfulness**
 - We enter our spouse's space the **same** way
5. God never allows anyone who is caustic, **negative** to enter His courts.

Ladies, you desire intimacy and you only get that when you deal with his **heart**.

Your spouse will never open his heart unless you are **praising** him.

6. The number one need of a woman is **security**.

Women are attracted to a **sacrificial** man.

B. The roles in Ephesians 5 **release** the potential of our spouse.

Genesis 2:18

¹⁸And the Lord God said, "*It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.*"

- Not good for Adam to be alone (it's not **God**).

Creates a helper – to attain your fullness, you need your **spouse**.

Pastor – I'm single

- You're **complete** in Christ but most people can only be felt of fulfillment.

Ephesians 5:29

²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.

Nourish – **feed**

Cherish – **protect**

7. The role of every man is to partner with God to create an atmosphere the wife can be **everything** God called her to be.

God will call you into account to how you **treated** her.

Men – it's time for a **revival** of righteous men to love their women.

Let's talk about the role of a woman that brings her husband to his full potential:

Ephesians 5:33

³³ Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects *her* husband.

Proverbs 31:33 says she has made her husband an elder in the city – how: in honor, you create the **atmosphere** before he becomes one.