

MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

#3 'Love & Respect'

Speaker: Auke Rienstra



THE PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE

The Biblical marriage is about:

1. Reflecting God's image
2. To have (sexual) intimacy, friendship, partnership, fun and faithfulness *in service of God*
3. To display the Gospel



EPH. 5:22-33

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. 25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,



EPH. 5:22-33

27so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. 28In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, 30 because we are members of his body.



EPH. 5:22-33

31 “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” 32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. 33 However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband. – Eph. 5:22-33



LOVE & RESPECT

Love – Respect
To Honor – to Submit

The opposites are Hostility and Contempt



TO LOVE (AND HONOR)

To love is “to admonish, to cherish, to celebrate, to care for, to treasure, to adore, to value, to love, to respect, to protect”



HUSBANDS: LOVE YOUR WIFE!

“Husbands, *love your wives*, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church” – Eph. 5:25-29



A SHOOTING AND A SINKING SHIP

Colorado theater
shooting July 20, 2012



Costa Concordia Jan.
13, 2012



STATISTICS ON ABUSE AND VIOLENCE

Violence and abuse:

- 1 in 3 women in US have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime
- 1 in 4 women have experienced severe physical violence by an intimate partner



TO RESPECT (AND SUBMIT)

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TO RESPECT (AND SUBMIT)

To respect is “to notice, regard, honor, prefer, defer to, encourage, love, and admire”



WHAT RESPECT AND SUBMISSION DO NOT MEAN

It does NOT mean that:

- Husband has ultimate power
- Women don't have independent thoughts
- Wives don't seek to influence husband
- Wives must obey husbands command to sin
- A women is less intelligent or competent than husband



TO RESPECT (AND SUBMIT)

What does it mean and why is it important
for men?

A few studies and surveys...



THE CRAZY CYCLE



THREE MAJOR OBSTACLES

1. She wonders: 'will I be a doormat?'
He wonders: 'why can't she see I'm tired of not hearing 'you just don't get it'?'
2. She worries about being a hypocrite
He complains 'I don't get respect'
3. She thinks: 'Can I ever forgive him?'
He thinks: 'I blew it again, nobody can love this women'



THE WITNESS OF THE GOSPEL IS AT STAKE

32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying
that it refers to Christ and the church. - Eph.
5:32





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