

Sacred: God's Design for Marriage

A Passionate Pursuit

Ephesians 5:25-31 (ESV)

²⁵Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 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, ³⁰because we are members of his body. ³¹“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”

6 Marriage Commitments:

1. Walk faithfully with the Lord
2. Love my spouse like Jesus does
3. Grow _____ together

The **model for marriage**: Christ and the Church

Jesus *chooses* us. Jesus *saves* us. Jesus *sanctifies* us. Jesus *presents* us.

In my marriage this looks like:

_____ my spouse *selflessly* and *sensitively* ...

_____ my spouse (and our marriage) more than I value anything in this world, save Jesus himself ...

_____ for my spouse's heart ...

_____ with my spouse on the deepest possible level ...

Why men must lead in this, but women must share in this responsibility ...

14* sanctifying actions I can take right now for the sake of my marriage:

1. Read the _____ together and _____.
2. _____ for each other (and journal it).
3. Pray daily _____ each other.
4. Go to _____ together and _____ together.
5. Find a _____ where you can _____ together.
6. Go on a _____ together.
7. Go to _____.
8. Get away and go on a _____.
9. Start _____ again.
10. Start _____ again.
11. _____ and _____ each other.
12. Hold each other _____.
13. Consciously (and verbally) _____ each other.
14. _____ each other.

6* destructive actions I should stop right now for the sake of my marriage:

1. _____ against each other.
2. Keeping _____ and/or _____ to my spouse.
3. _____ each other.
4. _____ each other.
5. _____ about each other.
6. Any _____ that my spouse and Jesus would not approve of.

This week, I'm going to ...

*There are probably a lot more!