

Message Series:

Membership Has Its Privileges: Walking with Christ A Study of Ephesians 4-6

Message for Sunday, May 30:

The New Normal with Relationships Ephesians 5:25-33

*25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church
and gave Himself up for her,
26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing
of water with the word,
27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory,
having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she
would be holy and blameless.
Ephesians 5:25–27 (NASB95)*

Today's Main Thought: Roles and responsibilities for husbands who are passionately pursuing Jesus Christ.

Husband's responsibilities in the new normal

- **Love** your own wife (v. 25, 31; Genesis 2:23-24; Proverbs 5:18-19; John 13:34; Colossians 3:19; 1Peter 3:7).
 - Convey **concern**.
 - Express sincere appreciation and **high regard**.
 - Bring out her best.
 - Tenderly rally around her as she deals with **imperfections/wrinkles**.
 - Affectionately be of assistance in removing her **blemishes/spots**.

How does a husband carry out his role in the new normal (vv. 28-33; 1 Corinthians 11:3; 1 Timothy 5:8)?

- As one **owing a debt** because he has received something of value
- As a sacrificial **knight in shining armor**
- As one who is a nurturing and caring **guide** bringing his wife into maturity

Husbands living in the new normal

- Pursue **loving your wife** rather than existing in a stagnant relationship.
- Communicate your love in several different ways other than **intimately**.
- **Be active and involved** in the rearing and discipline of the children.
- Get in the car and **drive!** Take up your role and responsibilities as God's ordained leader of your home.

Situations which can cause husbands to wrestle & struggle with the new normal in relationships

- *"How can I love my wife as Christ loves the church when she is so difficult to live with?"*
- *"Since life has happened to us, there is no more 'we' time."*
- ***I am embarrassed!*** I don't know how to lead.

Next Week: Ephesians 6:1-4

Pastor Rodney Lara