



A Christ-Centered Marriage

Colossians 3:18–19 NIV

SERMON NOTES

I. PRELIMINARY GROUNDWORK

***Women and men are equally created in God's Image.**

Genesis 1:27 *So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.*

***Both spouses equally complement each another.**

Genesis 2:18 *The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."*

***Power struggles occur naturally in marriage.**

Genesis 3:16b NLT *Then he said to the woman... "And you will desire to control your husband, but he will rule over you."*

II. FOR CHRISTIAN WIVES, A NEW PARADIGM:

Col. 3:18 *Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.*

**Submit to Christ by choosing to have a voluntary and supportive attitude toward your husband.*

**By your respectful support, the virtues of Christ will be on display and God will be glorified through you.*

**Caveat: This is by no means a mandate to be abused or persecuted or faithless.*

**Fringe Benefit: This should encourage your husband to embrace his duty to love you.*

III. FOR CHRISTIAN HUSBANDS, A NEW COMMAND:

Col 3:19 *Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.*

***Maintain incarnational unity with your bride.**

Genesis 2:24 *That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.*

***Sacrificially love your bride.**

Ephesians 5:25 *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.*

*“Like a magnet over iron fillings,
Christ orients things in the right direction.”*

--David E. Garland

PUT CHRIST IN THE HEART OF YOUR MARRIAGE.

Clothe yourselves with Christ.

Col. 3:12b–14 *Therefore... clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

Let the peace of Christ rule in your marriage.

Col. 3:15 *Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.*

Let the Word of Christ, the Gospel, be always with you.

Col. 3:16 *Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.*

Let the name of Christ be glorified in all you do.

Col. 3:17 *And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*