



“Gospel-Centered Marriage” (Part 1)

Colossians 3:18-19

LISTEN

Record your insights and observations from this week’s sermon:

SHARE

We’ve all heard a lot of bad news lately. What is a piece of good news you’ve received or heard in the past few weeks?

REFLECT

a) Review Colossians 3:18-19. Also read Ephesians 5:21-33 and 1 Peter 3:1-7.

b) What does it mean, and what does it *not* mean, for a wife to submit to her husband?

c) How does this calling for a married woman fit with her God-given gifts and passions?

d) How does the submission of a wife to her husband minister directly to his broken condition?

e) What must a married woman repent from in order to submit to her husband?

f) What light does Ephesians 5:24 throw on the subject of wives submitting to their husbands?

APPLY

a) What are your gut reactions to the Bible's teaching about submission? Is it a positive or a negative reaction?

b) Why do you think our culture interprets "submissive wife" in a generally negative way?

c) Do you think our culture has anything important to say to the Church in how we view and practice marriage?

d) **For wives:** How submissive are you to your husband? Do you think he feels consistently respected and affirmed by you? What might you do to improve?

e) **For husbands:** How hard do you work at earning the respect and submission of your wife? Do you think she feels adequately valued and delighted in by you? What might you do to improve?

f) **For singles:** If God should bring someone into your life as a marriage partner, how prepared will you be to carry out the Biblical directives for husbands and wives? What do you need to work on now in order to be a submissive wife or a loving husband?

PRAY

a) Pray for the overall health of the marriages represented at UPC.

b) Pray that we will be able to pass along a positive, Biblical model of marriage to the children and youth of UPC.

c) Ask God to pour out his Spirit upon our congregation and community.