

## THE MINDSET OF MARRIAGE

*Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church – for we are members of his body. “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” This is a profound mystery – but I am talking about Christ and the church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.*

Ephesians 5:18-33 (NIV)

### ❖ The Power of Submission

*Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ...*

1. Submission is surrendering PRIDE and self-will, freeing up to SERVE.
2. Mutual submission is putting the NEEDS of the other above those of YOURSELF.
3. Submission is at the HEART of the Gospel. Jesus SUBMITTED himself for us.

➤ Key Truth: Submission to one another is not WEAKNESS. It is FREEDOM.

### ❖ The Problem with Self-Centeredness

*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.*

1 Corinthians 13:4-5 (NIV)

1. Self-centeredness defined is “pursuing your own WANTS over those of OTHERS.”
2. Self-centeredness is many times birthed from our past HURTS.
3. The only answer to SELF-centeredness is becoming CHRIST-centered.

*And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.*

2 Corinthians 5:15 (NIV)

➤ Key Truth: Stop making excuses for SELFISHNESS and practice SERVING.

*Make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.*

Philippians 2:2-4 (NIV)

❖ **The Peace of Christ**

*Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God... And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.*  
Romans 5:1-2, 5 (NIV)

1. The first step is not thinking LESS of yourself but thinking of yourself LESS.

*(Cain) ...sin is crouching at your door. It desires to have you, but you must master it...*

Genesis 4:7 (NIV)

2. The second step is to find PEACE through the FEAR of Christ.

*...out of reverence for Christ...*

3. The third step is to take on the ATTITUDE of CHRIST.

*May God, who gives this patience and encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other – each with the attitude of Christ Jesus toward the other.*

Romans 15:5 (NLT)

*Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant.*

Philippians 2:5-7 (NIV)