

The Marriage Covenant: Husband

Genesis 2:24

*For this reason a man shall
leave his father and his mother,
and be joined to his wife;
and they shall become one flesh.*

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The Marriage Covenant

Quick Review of Principles of Biblical Interpretation – Big Three

- Interpretation is subject to Definition: Words have meaning
- Old Covenant is subject to New Covenant
- Historical Revelation is subject to Doctrinal Revelation

The covenant of marriage, as both conceived and defined by God, is made with God on the basis of legitimate needs of both the husband and wife to which both the husband and wife are held equally accountable.

I. The Covenant of Marriage

A. The Covenant

1. Made with God

a. Husband – Malachi 2:14

b. Wife – Proverbs 2:17

2. Meeting Covenant needs is not to be a legal burden or duty. Rather, out of love you are saying to God, “I want to be the one who meets this need in my spouse. Choose me to be the missing piece of the puzzle. Allow me to serve my spouse by becoming one and thus meeting this need.

3. Made with your spouse – Matthew 19:4 – 6

4. Made with the State – Romans 13:1

5. Made before the Church – Hebrews 13:4

6. Is by nature binding

a. The question of divorce

1.) Malachi 2:16

2.) Mark 10:9

b. The question of remarriage

1.) Mark 10:11

2.) Matthew 5:27 & 28

c. Did I marry the wrong person?

1.) Proverbs 19:14

2.) Proverbs 16:33

3.) Proverbs 3:5 & 6

4.) Proverbs 5:21

- 5.) 1 Corinthians 7:12-13, 27, 39
- 6.) The “form” or “type” of wedding or marriage has no bearing on this issue.
- 7.) Whether you are married in the church, by a rabbi, by an Islamic Mullah, by a Hindu Priest, by a cultural ceremony, by the state or legal system or simply by common law declaration, if you are married, then you are married.
- 8.) The Word of God gives no guidelines for what constitutes a marriage ceremony. Thus the desire for some to rid themselves of an undesirable spouse by declaring the marriage is not void because it did not follow some prescribed church ordinance or ceremony is completely false. Even the commonly held conventional wisdom that if a marriage is not consummated then it is not valid is false. Once married, you are joined by God, not the church, not sexual intimacy but by God. The church may bless but you are joined by God irregardless.

d. What if my spouse does not fulfill his or her part of the covenant?

- 1.) Wife’s Response Colossians 3:18
- 2.) Husband’s Response Colossians 3:19
- 3.) Husband yes, wife no: Ephesians 5:25
- 4.) Wife yes, Husband no: Ephesians 5:22
- 5.) Covenants are binding, even when they are “man’s” covenants Galatians 3:15
- 6.) God holds us to our covenants Psalm 15:4

B. In the Covenant of Marriage, if you do not meet your spouse's legitimate needs, then who do you want to do this?

1. Legitimate needs do not indicate imperfection or fault, God created Adam both perfect and good, yet with needs only Eve could meet
2. Trapping your spouse with his or her devotion to God
3. Teaching your spouse to meet legitimate needs outside the primary will of God.
4. Meeting Covenant needs is not to be a legal burden or duty. Rather, out of love you are saying to God, "I want to be the one who meets this need in my spouse. Choose me to be the missing piece of the puzzle. Allow me to serve my spouse by becoming one and thus meeting this need.

C. The Fine Print of the Marriage Covenant - The fine print of Marriage Covenant or the bold print of the Bible – either way it is our responsibility.

The covenant of marriage, as both conceived and defined by God, is made with God on the basis of legitimate needs of both the husband and wife to which both the husband and wife are held equally accountable.

II. The Fine Print of the Marriage Covenant

The covenant of marriage, as both conceived and defined by God, is made with God on the basis of legitimate needs of both the husband and wife to which both the husband and wife are held equally accountable.

Introduction:

1. Legitimate needs do not indicate imperfection or fault, God created Adam both perfect and good, yet with needs only Eve could meet and vice versa.
2. Covenant needs are not grown out of but instead increase with spiritual growth

3. If not you who

A. The Husband

If he, as Ephesians 5:25 commands, is to love his wife as “Christ loved the Church”, then those verses which define Christ’s undying love for the us, also define the husbands undying love for his wife.

1. Spiritual leader of the family

- a. Wife – Ephesians 5:23 & 26; I Corinthians 14:35
- b. Children – Ephesians 6:4
- c. Ministry – Romans 16:5; I Corinthians 16:19; Colossians 4:15; Philemon 1:2

d. If Not You: Who

2. Love wife by sacrificially meeting her emotional needs – Ephesians 5:25

- a. **Conversational intimacy** –
 - 1.) Access Hebrews 4:16
 - 2.) Topics (resulting in emotional comfort and security) Philippians 4:6, 7
- b. **Intimacy through emotional/psychological comfort and care** – Ephesians 5:33
- c. **Actually being there** – Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:5; Ephesians 5:31
 - 1.) In the beginning given by God the Father
 - 3.) Reaffirmed by God the Son
 - 4.) Instituted in the Church age by God the Holy Spirit

d. If Not You: Who

3. Trusting and truthful relationship – Proverbs 31:11

- a. All men want the wife of Proverbs 31
- b. Here we have insight into the husband of this wife.
- c. If we continually “protect” our wife by not telling her the truth we treat her as a child not as a helpmate.
- d. The reason it was not good for man to live alone is the need for a helpmate. If we refuse to be open and honest with our wives we deprive ourselves of this provision by God.
- e. Not only that we deprive her of her God given ministry.
- f. It would be as if your wife intercepted your mail and threw away any correspondence concerning your ministry that she thought would be distressful. This would not be helpful but hurtful. In the same way we hurt our wives by not allowing them to minister to us.
- g. **If Not You: Who**

4. Material needs – Ephesians 5:28; I Timothy 5:8

- a. **How we clothe our body vs. our wife’s**
- b. **Our office and supplies vs. wife’s kitchen and supplies**
- c. **Our “business lunches” vs. wife’s getting to eat out**
- d. **Our travel and conferences vs. wife’s vacations and conferences**
- e. **Our transportation vs. wife’s transportation**
- f. **If Not You: Who**

5. Home and family

- a. **Priority of the home – Ephesians 5:31**
- b. **Discipline of children – Proverbs 23:13 & 14; I Timothy 3:4**
- c. **Honor in the home – I Peter 3:7; Proverbs 31:28**
 - 1.) The mother is not the children’s servant
 - 2.) Servant as defined by Christ in Luke 22:27
- d. **If Not You: Who**

The covenant of marriage, as both conceived and defined by God, is made with God on the basis of legitimate needs of both the husband and wife to which both the husband and wife are held equally accountable.

B. The Wife

If she, as Ephesians 5:24 commands, is to be subject to her husband “as the Church is subject to Christ”, then those verses which define the Church’s undying love for Christ also define the wife’s undying love for her husband.

1. Submission to his leadership

- a. Ephesians 5:22 – 24; Colossians 3:18
- b. If you define “submission” in Ephesians 5:22 as being virtually neutralized by Ephesians 5:21, then the wife must be consistent with this application in her relationships, not just with her husband, but with her children and servants as well, for the passage continues through Ephesians 6:9
- c. I Peter 3:1 & 2, 5 & 6
- d. If Not You: Who**

2. Sexual fulfillment: Lessons from Esther

a. The care of her body as the temple of God.

- 1.) Ecclesiastes 1:8
- 2.) Proverbs 27:20
- 3.) I Corinthians 7:4
- 4.) Song of Solomon 4:1 - 7

b. Sexual intimacy

- 1.) Genesis 2:25
- 2.) Proverbs 5:15 – 19
- 3.) I Corinthians 7:3– 5
- 4.) Song of Solomon 4:1 – 16
- 5.) Song of Solomon 7:1 – 8:13

c. If Not You: Who

3. Helpmate and companion in life pursuits

Ecclesiastes 9:7 – 9; Proverbs 5:18; Genesis 2:18; I Corinthians 11:9

- a. Career – who do you want to be helping him and praising him?
- b. Ministry – why do other women praise him more than you and what are the results?
- d. Leisure / Sports – who is his greatest fan?
- e. **If Not You: Who**

4. **The home as a refuge – contrasting verses**

Proverbs 7:11; 14:1; 21:9, 19; 25:24; vs. 31:12,15,26, 27

- a. What a refuge is not...
Proverbs 7:11; 14:1; 21:9, 19; 25:24;
- VS.
- b. What a refuge is...
Proverbs 31:12,15,26, 27

c. **If Not You: Who**

5. **Respect**

Proverbs 12:4; Ephesians 5:33; I Peter 3:1 & 2

- a. Every mother knows the shallowness of mocking, feigned respect by a child.
- b. She should not repeat this in her relationship with her husband.

c. **If Not You: Who**

The covenant of marriage, as both conceived and defined by God, is made with God on the basis of legitimate needs of both the husband and wife to which both the husband and wife are held equally accountable.

The Marriage Covenant

The covenant of marriage, as both conceived and defined by God, is made with God on the basis of legitimate needs of both the husband and wife to which both the husband and wife are held equally accountable

God has created both men and women with legitimate needs which can only be met through the Covenant of Marriage. It has been God's plan from creation for the husband and wife to minister each other by fulfilling their mutual covenants before God.

In each of these ten areas it is always the same questions, "If you do not meet your spouse's need, then who do you want to do this?" What is their moral alternative?

Husband

Wife

1. Spiritual leader of the family

- "If you do not meet your spouse's need, then who do you want to do this?"
- "What is their moral alternative?"

1. Submission to his leadership

2. Love wife by sacrificially meeting her emotional needs

- "If you do not meet your spouse's need, then who do you want to do this?"
- "What is their moral alternative?"

2. Sexual fulfillment

3. Trusting and truthful relationship

- "If you do not meet your spouse's need, then who do you want to do this?"
- "What is their moral alternative?"

3. Helpmate and companion in life pursuits

4. Material needs

- "If you do not meet your spouse's need, then who do you want to do this?"
- "What is their moral alternative?"

4. The home as a refuge

5. Home and family

- "If you do not meet your spouse's need, then who do you want to do this?"
- "What is their moral alternative?"

5. Respect

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Spiritual Leadership Of The Family

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Ephesians 5:25 & 26; 6:4

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Ezra 7:10

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Job 1:1 - 5

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Spiritual Leadership Of The Family

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Hebrews 10:24 & 25; I Corinthians 15:33

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Corinthians 16:19; Acts 18:24 - 26

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 18:18; Romans 16:3; II Timothy 4:19

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage – Husband Cares For His Wife’s Material Needs/Comfort

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Ephesians 5:28 – 31

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Corinthians 7:32 – 33a; I Peter 3:7

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Proverbs 24:1 – 5; Hebrews 11:7

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage – Husband Cares For His Wife’s Material Needs/Comfort

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Proverbs 13:22; 19:14; 27:23 – 27

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Timothy 3:4 & 5

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Timothy 5:8

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage – Husband - Home and Family a Priority

The phenomenon of the “Distracted Father” is one of which I am all too familiar. I see it constantly in church, in the market place, at birthday parties, at school and at the seminars in which I teach. Whether the father is talking with friends, working on the computer, watching TV, doing office work at home, fellowshipping at church, at a party or event, the evidence is the same - a child or children running out of control and the father completely oblivious to it all. It is as if he were a single man or childless parent. Unfortunately this seemingly unnatural distracted behavior is symptomatic of his overall approach to parenting. Inevitably he will be a distracted and often for the most part non-resident father to his children. In fact it is my observation based on years as a Youth Minister, Adult Education Minister, College Minister, Pastor and Missionary that the children of distracted and/or non-resident fathers have the same character deficiencies irrespective of their father’s religious orientation or vocation. In other words the children of the distracted and/or non-resident pastor, missionary, church worker, deacon, elder or Christian father have the same character deficiencies as the children of pagan military, executive, or workaholic dad. It makes no difference, the fact that you are a Christian does not make up for the fact that you are distracted and/or gone all the time. This makes sense to men in all other areas of their lives. The fact that you are a Christian has no impact on your budget unless you are there to actually budget your finances, stay on top of the budget and follow-through on the budget. The fact that you are a Christian has no impact on the upkeep of your home unless you are aware of the home, you are there and willing to act on what you see. The fact that you are a Christian has no impact on your job unless you show up for work, are conscientious about your work and follow through on your responsibilities at work. In fact the non-Christian will who is conscientious with his budget, with the upkeep of his home and with his duties at work will be more successful than the distracted and/or non-resident Christian in all of these areas. Even though the logic of the above three illustrations is clear and readily admitted by Christian men, never-the-less they continue to think that their marriage, their family, their home, will somehow be an exception. That they can continue to be distracted and/or non-resident and yet not suffer decay and destruction in this one area. Nothing however could be further from the truth.

I remember my son Sam once asked me what the difference was in my parenting as a father from that which his friends experienced. He said now that he had a career, a family and friends at the same stage of life. He had begun to realize when talking to his friends how unique his experience was. I thought about this and then answered him that God gave me the grace to have always thought about my life responsibilities as having two jobs. As I drove to the office I would think about my coming responsibilities. I would organize my day in my mind and often show up a little early to make sure I was ready to begin the day strong. On my way home from work I did not listen to the radio, let my mind wander and look forward to the rest of the day and evening off. Rather I would be thinking about my second job – that of a husband and father. I would be thinking of his mom and her needs, the children, school, training and then the home and the chores needed to be done. I would arrive at home with the same determination and focus for this my second job as I would for my first. It was only after the responsibilities were fulfilled, the kids were all in bed and the house in order that I considered my workday as over.

In contrast far to many young husbands and fathers come home thinking about their computer games or fantasy leagues. They come home thinking about sporting events or their hobby. Their workshop, their hunting or fishing opportunities, their golf game or leisure activities. They come home thinking about continuing their work or about how tired they are and check out for the rest of the evening. When out with their children they often are so focused on their discussions and friendships that they are relatively unaware of the behavior of their children. When with their children in public they think of themselves as off duty. They never do this with work, only with family.

It is my hope that by meditation on the priority which the Holy Spirit places on the Husband in terms of the priority of the home and family will bring you to an understanding of it’s importance. By God’s grace and through the life changing power of the holy, eternal, inerrant written Word of God you will conform to His standard in this area.

Rev. John S. Mahon / Wednesday – June 20, 2012 / Wellingsborough, England

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage – Husband - Home and Family a Priority

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Timothy 5:8; Proverbs 6:6 - 11

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Ephesians 5:25 – 27; I Peter 3:7

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Proverbs 4:1 – 4; Ephesians 6:4; Job 1:1 - 5

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage – Husband - Home and Family a Priority

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Corinthians 7:32 – 34a

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Proverbs 27:8, 23 – 27

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Timothy 3:4 & 5, 12

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage – Husband - Home and Family a Priority

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Proverbs 27:8; 7:19 & 20

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Proverbs 13:22; 19:14

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Ecclesiastes 10:18; 14:11; 24:30 – 34

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage – Husband - Home and Family a Priority

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Luke 15:11 – 32

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Ephesians 5:28 & 29; Proverbs 31:21-23, 28-31

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Hebrews 12: 4 - 10

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage – Husband Is Open and Transparent As Christ Is To The Church

If, as Ephesians 5:25 commands us, we as husbands are to “love our wives as Christ loves the Church”, then those passages of Scripture which reveal Christ’s undying love for His Church also give us insight into our own undying love for our wives. The following Daily Quiet Times Alone With God provide you with meditations both on Christ’s openness and transparency with His disciples and Church as well as an opportunity to reflect on your relationship with your wife – does your openness and transparency with her truly reflect that of Christ and you?

In God’s eyes it is hypocritical for us to look to, rely upon and appreciate God’s openness and transparency with us while at the same time refusing that same level of openness and transparency with our wives. We must of course all admit that it is not because of our emotional maturity or mental prowess that God has revealed himself to us in such an open and transparent manner. For instance God has been very transparent concerning His divine attributes. One may easily study the Bible on your own or read any number of theological works and discover that God has revealed a great deal about Himself – both His invisible and visible attributes. He has revealed aspects about Himself – such as the trinity, His omnipresence, His omniscience and more – which we are unable to fully fathom, nor will we ever be able to master His divine nature. Never-the-less He shares openly and freely with us. The question is therefore begged, “Have I as a husband been as open and transparent with my wife as Jesus has been with me?”. In John 15:15 Jesus reveals to His disciples that as a friend, He has shared all things with them. In John 11:35 and other places Jesus wept openly before His disciples. Jesus spent many hours at the dinner table with His disciples. Jesus included the disciples “with Him” throughout His life. In fact in Acts 4:13 one of the characteristics of the disciples was that they were easily recognizable as having spent time Jesus. Jesus prayed openly with His disciples. Jesus did not hold back “bad news” concerning Himself – His coming suffering, crucifixion and death. Nor did Jesus keep back from the disciples the reality of their own coming sufferings. Jesus spoke freely and often of His great love for His disciples and assured them over and over again that He would never leave them nor forsake them. Again, these promises were not made to the disciples and the church based on their great spiritual maturity and the nobleness of their conduct.

As you do the following meditations reflect on Christ’s openness and transparency in His expressions of love for the disciples, the church and of course yourself. Then reflect **“How would the husband reflect in his relationship with his wife the transparency which Christ exhibits to the church?”** In other words if this is the way Christ loves His Church then how would this same love be manifested in my love for my wife? From this point of reference you will then go on to application, both immediate and long term. We must though always come back to the reality that it is hypocritical for the husband to want to know all there is to know about God, while at the same time closing himself off to His wife. To expect God to speak to Him from His Word while at the same time being uncommunicative with His wife. To have question after question about God, yet to resent questions from his wife. The list goes on and the application becomes clear. If, as Ephesians 5:25 commands us, we as husbands are to “love our wives as Christ loves the Church”, then those passages of Scripture which reveal Christ’s undying love for His Church also give us insight into our own undying love for our wives.

By His mercy,
 Rev. John S. Mahon
 Director – Grace Community Int
 June 22, 2012 / Wellingsborough, England

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage – Husband is open and transparent as Christ is to the church

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: John 15:15; 16:29 & 30

How would the husband reflect in his relationship with his wife the transparency which Christ exhibits to the church?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

In being as transparent with my wife as Christ is with the church, how will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Mark 14:34; Luke 19:41; John 11:35

How would the husband reflect in his relationship with his wife the transparency which Christ exhibits to the church?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

In being as transparent with my wife as Christ is with the church, how will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Luke 7:36; Matthew 9:11; John 13:1 – 5; Revelation 3:20

How would the husband reflect in his relationship with his wife the transparency which Christ exhibits to the church?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

In being as transparent with my wife as Christ is with the church, how will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD***JEREMIAH 15:16*****THEME: Marriage – Husband is open and transparent as Christ is to the church****TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 9:28; Luke 11:1 & 2; Hebrews 4:16****How would the husband reflect in his relationship with his wife the transparency which Christ exhibits to the church?****When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****In being as transparent with my wife as Christ is with the church, how will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?****TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Matthew 16:21; Mark 10:32 – 34; Luke 18:31-33; John 14:27-31****How would the husband reflect in his relationship with his wife the transparency which Christ exhibits to the church?****When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****In being as transparent with my wife as Christ is with the church, how will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?****TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: John 3:16; 13:34; 15:9-12; Revelation 3:9****How would the husband reflect in his relationship with his wife the transparency which Christ exhibits to the church?****When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****In being as transparent with my wife as Christ is with the church, how will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage – Husband is open and transparent as Christ is to the church

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Matthew 24:9; John 15:18 – 21; 16:29-33

How would the husband reflect in his relationship with his wife the transparency which Christ exhibits to the church?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

In being as transparent with my wife as Christ is with the church, how will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Matthew 11:28-30; Mark 3:14; 9:2; 14:33; Acts 4:13

How would the husband reflect in his relationship with his wife the transparency which Christ exhibits to the church?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

In being as transparent with my wife as Christ is with the church, how will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

TOPIC & PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Matthew 28:20b; John 10:27-29; Romans 8:35 – 39

How would the husband reflect in his relationship with his wife the transparency which Christ exhibits to the church?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

In being as transparent with my wife as Christ is with the church, how will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage - What makes a happy wife?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Being Her Spiritual Leader – Ephesians 5:25-27; I Corinthians 14:35

What does this passage teach me about my responsibility to take the spiritual initiative in my marriage & family?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage? (Including in regards to church and praying daily with my wife)

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Being Her Spiritual Leader – Ephesians 6:4

What does this passage teach me about my responsibility to take the spiritual initiative in my marriage & family?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage? (Including in regards to church and praying daily with my wife)

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Being Her Spiritual Leader – Proverbs 31:23

What does this passage teach me about my responsibility to take the spiritual initiative in my marriage & family?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage? (Including in regards to church and praying daily with my wife)

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage - What makes a happy wife?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Being Her Spiritual Leader – Deuteronomy 6:1 – 7, 20 – 25; Deuteronomy 11:18 & 19

What does this passage teach me about my responsibility to take the spiritual initiative in my marriage & family?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage? (Including in regards to church and praying daily with my wife)

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Being Her Spiritual Leader – Proverbs 4:1 – 4

What does this passage teach me about my responsibility to take the spiritual initiative in my marriage & family?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage? (Including in regards to church and praying daily with my wife)

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Being Her Spiritual Leader –Psalm 78;1- 8

What does this passage teach me about my responsibility to take the spiritual initiative in my marriage & family?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage? (Including in regards to church and praying daily with my wife)

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage - What makes a happy wife?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Verbally Expressing Your Love and Praising Her Publically, Before The Children and In Private – Proverbs 31:28-31; Ruth 3:11

What does this passage teach me about being more verbally expressive to my wife?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Verbally Expressing Your Love and Praising Her Publically, Before The Children and In Private – I Peter 3:7

What does this passage teach me about being more verbally expressive to my wife?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Verbally Expressing Your Love and Praising Her Publically, Before The Children and In Private – Song of Solomon 4:1 - 11

What does this passage teach me about being more verbally expressive to my wife?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage - What makes a happy wife?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Verbally Expressing Your Love and Praising Her Publically, Before The Children and In Private – Colossians 3:18; Ephesians 5:33

What does this passage teach me about being more verbally expressive to my wife?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Verbally Expressing Your Love and Praising Her Publically, Before The Children and In Private – Song of Soloman 7:1 - 9

What does this passage teach me about being more verbally expressive to my wife?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Verbally Expressing Your Love and Praising Her Publically, Before The Children and In Private – I Corinthians 7:33; Song of Soloman 6:4 - 9

What does this passage teach me about being more verbally expressive to my wife?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage - What makes a happy wife?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: If I love her the way Christ loves the church then she will have the same access to me in terms of conversation, (her talking, me listening & expressing my love) that I receive from Christ. – Hebrews 4:16

As I read these passages about Christ’s willingness to listen to me & express His love for me, does my wife experience this from me?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: If I love her the way Christ loves the church then she will have the same access to me in terms of conversation, (her talking, me listening & expressing my love) that I receive from Christ. – I Philippians 4:6, 7

As I read these passages about Christ’s willingness to listen to me & express His love for me, does my wife experience this from me?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: If I love her the way Christ loves the church then she will have the same access to me in terms of conversation, (her talking, me listening & expressing my love) that I receive from Christ. – I Peter 5:7

As I read these passages about Christ’s willingness to listen to me & express His love for me, does my wife experience this from me?

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How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

f I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD*JEREMIAH 15:16***THEME: Marriage - What makes a happy wife?**

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: If I love her the way Christ loves the church then she will have the same access to me in terms of conversation, (her talking, me listening & expressing my love) that I receive from Christ. – Matthew 11:28 - 30

As I read these passages about Christ's willingness to listen to me & express His love for me, does my wife experience this from me?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: If I love her the way Christ loves the church then she will have the same access to me in terms of conversation, (her talking, me listening & expressing my love) that I receive from Christ. – Jeremiah 31:3; Psalm 23:6

As I read these passages about Christ's willingness to listen to me & express His love for me, does my wife experience this from me?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: If I love her the way Christ loves the church then she will have the same access to me in terms of conversation, (her talking, me listening & expressing my love) that I receive from Christ.– Lamantations 3:22, 23

As I read these passages about Christ's willingness to listen to me & express His love for me & express His love for me, does my wife experience this from me?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD*JEREMIAH 15:16***THEME: Marriage - What makes a happy wife?****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Actually being there Psalm 23:1 – 6; Deuteronomy 31:6****God is always there for me, can I say the same about me and my wife? (Including the dinner table)****When I reflect on these passages and compare them to my willingness to spend both quality and quantity time with my wife, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?****If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Actually being there Romans 8:35 - 39****God is always there for me, can I say the same about me and my wife? (Including the dinner table)****When I reflect on these passages and compare them to my willingness to spend both quality and quantity time with my wife, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?****If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Actually being there Ephesians 5:25 - 33****God is always there for me, can I say the same about me and my wife? (Including the dinner table)****When I reflect on these passages and compare them to my willingness to spend both quality and quantity time with my wife, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?****If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:**

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD*JEREMIAH 15:16***THEME: Marriage - What makes a happy wife?**

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Actually being there Revelation 3:20; Revelation 19:7 - 9
 God is always there for me, can I say the same about me and my wife? (Including the dinner table)

When I reflect on these passages and compare them to my willingness to spend both quality and quantity time with my wife, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Actually being there John 10:10 – 18, 28
 God is always there for me, can I say the same about me and my wife? (Including the dinner table)

When I reflect on these passages and compare them to my willingness to spend both quality and quantity time with my wife, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Actually being there Isaiah 40:11; Psalm 94:14
 God is always there for me, can I say the same about me and my wife? (Including the dinner table)

When I reflect on these passages and compare them to my willingness to spend both quality and quantity time with my wife, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD*JEREMIAH 15:16***THEME: Marriage - What makes a happy wife?****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Material needs – Ephesians 5:28 - 31****What does these passages teach me about caring for my wife's physical needs?****When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage? (When I think of my office and my wife's kitchen which comes up short? What about transportation? Eating out? Travel?)****If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Material needs – I Timothy 5:8****What does these passages teach me about caring for my wife's physical needs?****When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage? (When I think of my office and my wife's kitchen which comes up short? What about transportation? Eating out? Travel?)****If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Material needs – Proverbs 31:28 - 31****What does these passages teach me about caring for my wife's physical needs?****When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage? (When I think of my office and my wife's kitchen which comes up short? What about transportation? Eating out? Travel?)****If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:**

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD*JEREMIAH 15:16***THEME: Marriage - What makes a happy wife?****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Material needs – Proverbs 31:10 – 15 (:15)****These passages speak to the home of the godly woman. What do these passages teach me about how the husband of this godly wife and mother provided for her and in turn about me providing for my wife?****When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage? (When I think of my office and my wife's kitchen which comes up short? What about transportation? Eating out? Travel?)****If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Material needs – Proverbs 31:16 - 23****These passages speak to the home of the godly woman. What do these passages teach me about how the husband of this godly wife and mother provided for her and in turn about me providing for my wife?****When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage? (When I think of my office and my wife's kitchen which comes up short? What about transportation? Eating out? Travel?)****If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:****PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Material needs – Proverbs 31:24 - 31****These passages speak to the home of the godly woman. What do these passages teach me about how the husband of this godly wife and mother provided for her and in turn about me providing for my wife?****When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:****How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage? (When I think of my office and my wife's kitchen which comes up short? What about transportation? Eating out? Travel?)****If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:**

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage - What makes a happy wife?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Being Gentle and Loving At Home. I Peter 3:7

What does this passage teach me about my wife's happiness in terms of our marriage?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Being Gentle and Loving At Home. Ephesians 5:33

What does this passage teach me about my wife's happiness in terms of our marriage?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Being Gentle and Loving At Home. Colossians 3:19

What does this passage teach me about my wife's happiness in terms of our marriage?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Marriage - What makes a happy wife?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Being Gentle and Loving At Home. Deuteronomy 24:5

What does this passage teach me about my wife's happiness in terms of our marriage?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Being Gentle and Loving At Home. Ephesians 5:25 - 28

What does this passage teach me about my wife's happiness in terms of our marriage?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name:

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Being Gentle and Loving At Home. I Samuel 25:3 vs. Philippians 4:5 & I Peter 3:7

What does this passage teach me about my wife's happiness in terms of our marriage?

When I reflect on these passages, do they primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply these passages to my marriage in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make these passages a part of my marriage?

If I decide not to meet this need then who do I want to take my place? Name: