**Week of Aug 25, 2019**

**Ephesians 5:21-6:4**

21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. 22 Wives submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the savior of the body. 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. 28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. 29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: 30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. 31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. 32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverences her husband.

1 Children obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2 Honor thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) 3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. 4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

**Understanding the Scriptures**

In today’s lesson we look at God standard for marriage. It is centered around unity and equality. This idea of unity and equality is the backdrop for Paul’s word’s on marriage From the forming of Adam and Eve for each other in the Garden of Eden to Jesus’ first miracle of turning water into wine at a wedding party, the Bible indicates that marriage has been a part of Israelite culture from their very beginnings. In many ways, marriage was a socially focused relationship – it was the manner by which a family was able sustain itself rom generation to generation. Marriages were often arranged by parents to help continue the family legacy. However, marriage did often involve romantic love, like in the instance of Jacob falling in love with Rachel. Paul uses the marriage relationship as well as the relationship between children and parents, to teach the proper way to live in relationships that have varying levels of authority and power. In order for the family and the body of Christ to function efficiently and effectively, a mutual respect must be held for one another!

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