

Maintaining the Presence of God in Our Homes pt1

Maintaining the Presence in Our Marriages

Ephesians 5:22-29





What are Covenants?

- Heb. Berith(*ber-eeth*): In the O.T. covenants conveyed the idea of a solemn commitment, while guaranteeing a promise or obligations undertaken by one or both covenanting parties. When applied to God as the covenant Giver & Keeper, covenants are usually expressed in unmistakable terms of what He is going to do in the folds of the promises he is going to enact. Although grace through faith is the normal prerequisite of God's covenants, the act of obedience is usually a major essential.
- ⁹ *Then God said to Abraham, "Your responsibility is to obey the terms of the covenant. Gen 17:9(NLT)*



Why are Covenants Important to God?

They provide insight into God's original purpose for mankind which has always been to establish a healthy relationship and bless mankind with dominion over the earth

What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him? For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor. You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet, Ps 8:4-6(NKJV)

God has done all this. He has restored our relationship with him through Christ...2Cor 5:18(GW)



In a Godly Marriage Divorce should never be an Option

“For the LORD God of Israel says That He hates divorce...

Mal 2:16

Divorce in a godly marriage must meet certain conditions

- **DIVORCE:** is a breach of the Covenant and distorts the purpose of marriage
- **INFIDELITY:** Is a breach of Covenant
- **Physical ABUSE:** Breach of Covenant
(*Treacherously –to pillage*) *Mal 2:16c*
- **Marriage to Unbeliever:**



God's Intent for Marriage

Marriage was meant to:

Establish a Holy Covenant between man & woman Mark 10:4-8

Be a Blessing Prov 18:22

Be Honorable Heb 13:4

Create Godly Offspring Mal 2:15

Establish Sexual Intimacy 1 Cor 7:3-5

Last a Lifetime Mark 10:8-9

Reflect Christ Love to the Church Eph 5:31-33



How does Love play a part in Marriage?

- Love (Agape) is an Important part of Marriage because it is selfless acts of benevolence toward each other. This is Godlike love that endures all things!



Types of Love (Greek Terms)

- **Storge:** Natural affection (as between mother & child: family)
- **Philia:** The affection of friends and kindred spirits (brotherly)
- **Eros:** Physical Attraction often times leading to sexual acts of expression
- **Agape:** Unconditional love, love by choice and by an act of the will.



What Steps should a couple take to maintain a marriage?

- **Wives**

- 1. Submit-** wives must be submissive to the authority of their husbands.
 - *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.*
Eph 5:22
- 2. Love-** never seeking anything but the highest good
 - *... admonish the young women to love their husbands...*
Titus 2:4
- 3. Respect-** acknowledges a person's position
 - *wives should respect their husbands.* Eph 5:33 (GW)



What Steps should a couple take to maintain a marriage?

- **Husbands**

1. Submit-Husbands must be submissive to the needs of their wives

- *Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.* 1 Cor 7:4b

2. Love - never seeking anything but the highest good

- *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her* Eph 5:25

3. Honor- Honor recognizes a person's worth or value

- *Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife...* 1Pet 3:7



A.Submission is (hypeikō –hoop- ay-ko):

- Offered Freely
- **Lit. to *place under***; surrender; yield (*give something w/hopes of a return*)
- **Freely** yielding your rights and possibly life to another; Willful subjection



Submission is NOT :

- **Hierarchical authority** - *Husbands are not Lords, but Leaders*
- **Blind** - *Unquestioning or mindless following*
- **Fearful** – *Fearing repercussion from God or man*
- **Manipulated** – *A leader should not attempt to used the Word to produce submission*
- **Regulated** – *Orchestrated by rules & regulations*
- **Demanded**- *Claimed as a (Husbands) rights*

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- *²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. ²⁴ Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.*

Eph 5:22-29

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