

## **Your Marriage – One of God's Greatest Gifts!**

Marriage Is the Picture of the wonderful love that God has for His people! In scripture Christ is seen as the bride groom and the church is seen as His bride! Christ laid down His life for the church! He loved so much that He died for her. When it came to the ceremony between you and your wife, you were committing to display this same kind of love.

Marriage is a covenant between a husband and wife to die to themselves and to live for one another! You stood before God and you promised! The success of your marriage is always based not on the promise at your ceremony, but on how well you lived these promises out!

- **What did you promise to your wife on your wedding day?**

**Read the Following Verses and answer the questions:**

**Ephesians 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. 28 So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; 29 for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, 30 because we are members of His body.

- **What Is Your Major Responsibility towards your wife in your marriage?**
- **What does it mean to nourish and cherish your wife?**
- **What does this all look like?**

**1 Peter 3:7** You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.

- **What Are you commanded to do in relationship with your wife according to the 1 Peter passage?**

### **What Does This Do For Your Wife?**

"It Will Meet the Basic Needs that a Woman Has that a Husband is designed to Meet!"

#### **1. Security**

- **What does it mean for your wife to feel secure with you as her husband?**
- **How well are you providing this security for her?**

#### **2. Emotional Intimacy**

Emotional Intimacy is conversation and communication. It is how you "won" your wife. It is the verbal and body language that says to your wife that she is more important than anyone else in this life. It's where she knows you are interested in her life.

- **What are some ways you provide Emotional Intimacy with Your wife?**
- **Are you setting aside certain times where she has an opportunity to talk with you while knowing you are really listening – you are really interested?**

#### **3. Significance**

- What would your wife and children say is the most significant thing in your life? Job? Recreation? Outdoors? Ministry?
- Your wife needs to know that she is the most significant person, place or thing in your life – How do you show her that?
- How are you doing on these three basic needs of your wife?
- How are you doing in living out the promises you made on your wedding day? Where are you lacking?
- Spend the next few minutes praying for you wives and asking the Spirit to lead you in fulfilling the word you gave her on your wedding day!