

## For Further Study:

“The Meaning of Marriage” by Tim Keller

“Love and Respect” by Emerson Eggerichs

“Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood” by Piper and Grudem

## Small Group Questions:

1. Tim Keller makes the statement in his book, “sinful self-centeredness is the enemy of marriage”. Would you agree or disagree?
2. Why is the teaching of submission such a difficult teaching in our culture or in the Ephesian culture? Why is submission more debated than sacrificial leadership?
3. How is Christ an example for both husband and wife as they exercise their God-given roles in marriage? How does all of this relate to verse 21 of Chapter 5?
4. Compare these house-codes with the others (1 Pet 3:1-7, Col. 3:18-4:1).
5. Does the Christian have any advantage in marriage that a non-Christian does not have access to? If so what? If we do have an advantage, why is it Christians struggle in marriage almost as much as non-Christians?
6. Does marriage (as designed by God) look desirable to you?
7. How does all of this relate to being under the influence of the Holy Spirit?

Eric Johns

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## “Under the Influence” (Part I) Ephesians 5:21-33

1. **The Christian community is characterized by mutual submission (21)**
2. **Respectful submission is the responsibility of a Spirit-filled wife (22-24)**
  - a. Submission does not mean inferiority
  - b. Submission is not forced, it is a voluntary act
  - c. Submission is ultimately an act of submission to Christ
  - d. Submission affirms the leadership of a husband
  - e. Submission is not culturally bound
3. **Servant leadership is the responsibility of a Spirit-Filled husband (25-31)**
  - a. The leadership of a husband is to be loving (25)
  - b. The leadership of a husband is to be sacrificial (25-27)
  - c. The leadership of a husband facilitates oneness (28-31)
4. **Marriage, under the influence of the Spirit is to be illustrative (32-33)**

“Marriage is glorious, but hard. It’s a burning joy and strength, and yet it is also blood sweat, and tears, Humbling defeats and exhausting victories.”  
Tim Keller