

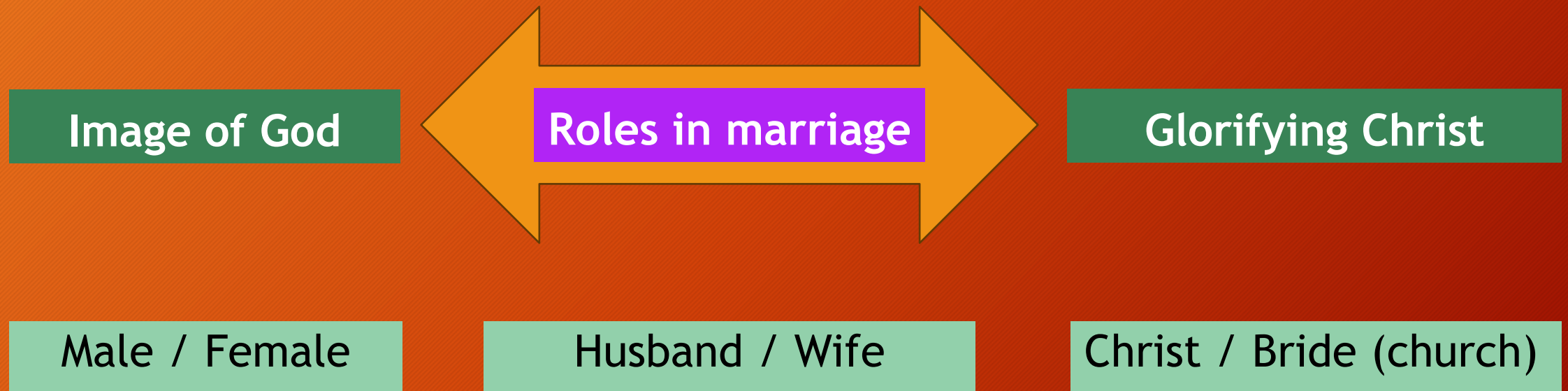
The Husband's Priority Is Love

# Taking responsibility

“Throughout history the most dominant distortion of relationships has been on man’s side”

John MacArthur, *Ephesians*, p. 294

# Scripture ties together two concepts



# Image of God in woman / Picture of the Church

## Image of God

- Helper
- Giver of life
- Nurturer

## Role as wife

Submits to husband

## Picture of Church

- Submits to Christ
- Evangelism
- Discipleship

# Masculine stereotypes

“We need to be careful we don’t equate our preferred type of masculinity with biblical manhood. I know conservatives want to push back the tide of feminism and fight against the emasculation of men in our culture, but offering stereotypes is not the way to do it.”

Kevin DeYoung, “*Play the Man*”, [www.cbmw.org](http://www.cbmw.org)

# Masculine stereotypes

“It is not fair to say, without qualification, ‘Real men hunt and fish. Real men like football. Real men watch ultimate fighting. Real men love *Braveheart*. Real men change the oil and chop firewood.’”

Kevin DeYoung, “*Play the Man*”, [www.cbmw.org](http://www.cbmw.org)

# Masculine stereotypes

“It’s one thing for pastors to give men *permission* to be like this. It’s another to *prescribe* that they must. You simply can’t prove from the Bible that manliness must look like William Wallace.”

Kevin DeYoung, “*Play the Man*”, [www.cbmw.org](http://www.cbmw.org)

# Image of God in man / Picture of Christ

## Image of God

- Leader
- Protector
- Provider

## Role as husband

Loves his wife

## Picture of Christ

- Leads sacrificially
- Washes with the word
- Nourishes and cherishes



# God and Christ as Savior

He is strong and powerful (Zeph 3:17; Ex 15:3; Isa 42:13) and  
He is tender and gentle (Ps 23; Mt 11:29; Jn 10)

# Ephesians 5:25

## Message

To be uniquely Christian, husbands must lead with the other-centered, self-sacrificing love of our Savior

## Eph 5:25-33

MacArthur points out that “the emphasis of the rest of the chapter is not on the husband’s authority but on his duty to submit to his wife through his love for her”

# Husbands, love your wives

“Husbands are not to be domestic tyrants; but their dominion is to be a reign of love”

John Eadie, *Ephesians*, p. 414

# Husbands, love your wives

This command “is not found in the OT, rabbinic literature, or in the household codes of the Greco-Roman era”. Thus, it is “revolutionary”

Harold Hoehner, *Ephesians*, p. 748

## God's original design

“the woman was *made of a rib out of the side of Adam*; not made out of his head to rule over him, nor out of his feet to be trampled upon by him, but out of his side to be equal with him, under his arm to be protected, and near his heart to be beloved”

# Husband: Chief Agapé Officer (CAO)

The husband's love establishes the model for everyone in the home