

Expectation or Responsibility?

Ephesians 5:33
Message

Every married Christian is responsible for serving their spouse in the way that God has instructed them

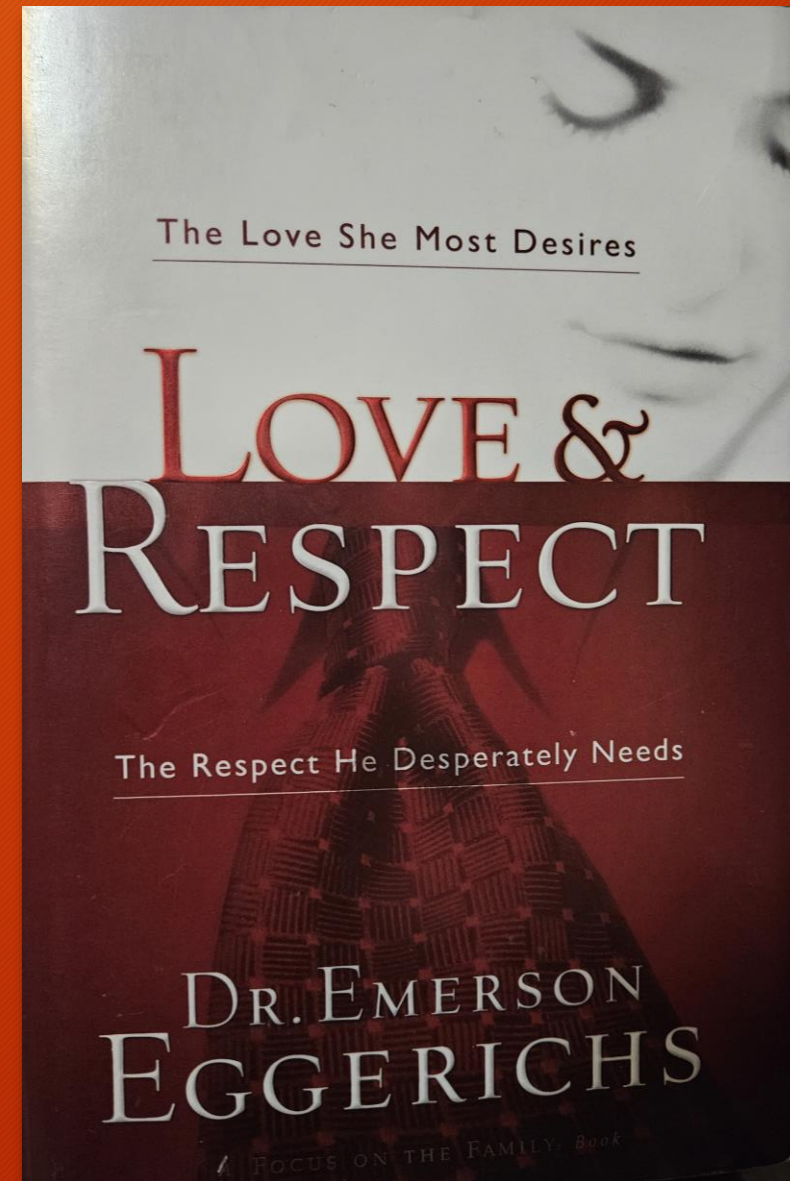
Faithful obedience to God leads to happiness and fulfillment

Does Eph 5:33 really teach this?

Emerson Eggerichs

Love & Respect

The Love She Most
Desires; The Respect He
Desperately Needs



Needs-based ethics

“love and respect are primary needs” (p. 17)

“A wife has one driving need - to feel loved. When that need is met, she is happy. A husband has one driving need - to feel respected. When that need is met, he is happy” (Back cover)

“The Crazy Cycle”. “Without love, she reacts without respect. Without respect, he reacts without love—ad nauseam” (p. 16)

Emerson Eggerichs, *Love & Respect*

Exchange for another desperate cycle

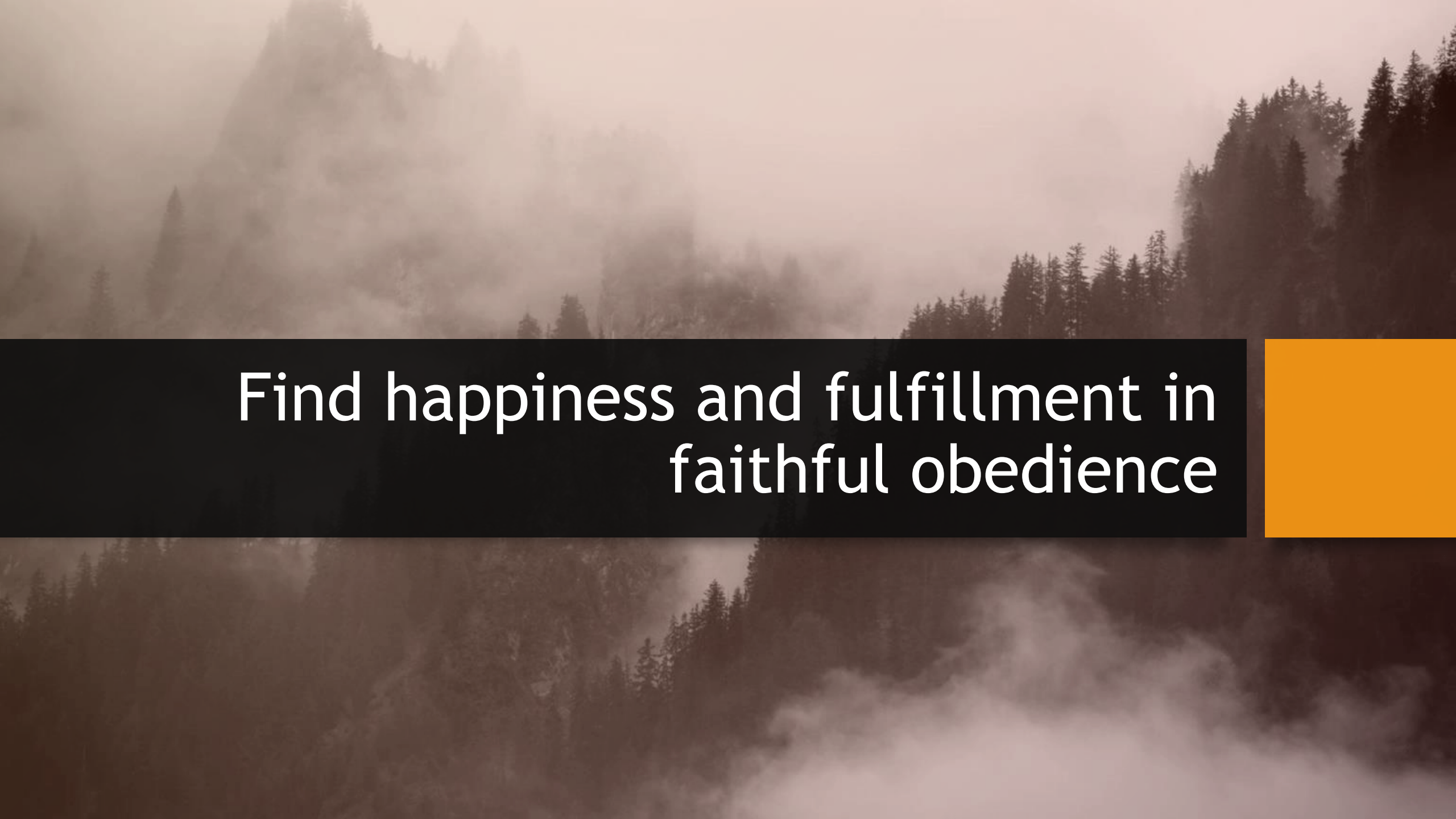
“When a husband receives unconditional respect from his wife, those fond feelings of affection will return, and he will start giving her the kind of love she has always hoped to receive” (p. 66)

Emerson Eggerichs, *Love & Respect*

Right Side Up Theology

“It is not knowing another’s duty, nor the censuring of the negligence of another, but doing our own duty that will bring us safely and comfortably to our journey’s end”

William Gurnall, *The Christian In Complete Armour*, p. 134

A misty mountain landscape with evergreen trees and a valley. The scene is hazy, with soft light filtering through the fog. The mountains are covered in dense evergreen forests. The overall mood is serene and peaceful.

Find happiness and fulfillment in
faithful obedience



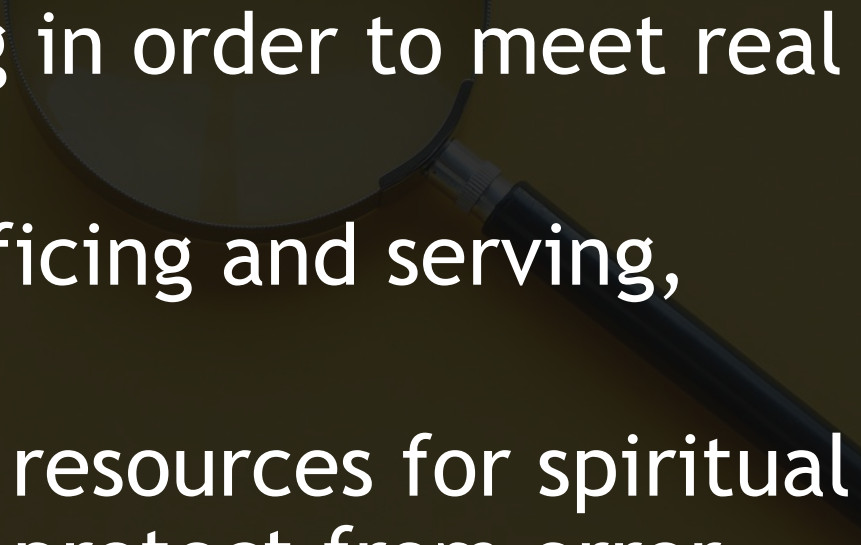
Each married individual is responsible to obey God

The husband must love his wife as himself

The wife must dutifully respect her husband

Expectation or Responsibility?
Eph 5:33

“*Agapé* love”

- Giving, sacrificing, serving in order to meet real needs
 - Love her by leading, sacrificing and serving, faithfully and joyfully
 - Real needs: deal with sin, resources for spiritual development and service, protect from error
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“Respect” (Eph 5:33; 1 Pet 3:2)

- Lit., “fear” (Greek, *phobos*)
- *Phobos* = from “terror fear” to “reverential awe or respect
- Stronger than “honor” (1 Pet 3:7, Greek, *timé*)
- NOT “terror fear” (1 Pet 3:6, “*without being frightened (phobos) by any fear (ptoēsis)*”)

ptoēsis = intimidation, terror

Dutiful respect - Eph 5:33

A wife must maintain dutiful respect for
her husband

*“if you do what is right
without being frightened by
any fear” - 1 Pet 3:6*