

Session 2: Roles of Husband and Wife

Homework:

Read chapters 2 & 3 from *Love that Lasts*, OR Listen to the audio, Premarital Session 2,
“Leading with Love” & “Walking in Wisdom” “Embracing God’s Design”

Objective: Understand the divinely-ordained role of the husband as *servant leadership* and the role of the wife as *respectful submission*.

Scripture Study: Ephesians 5:22-33

1. Why is the wife supposed to submit to the husband (verses 22-24)?
2. How is the husband supposed to love his wife (verses 25-33)?
3. Why is a clear understanding of the gospel vital to fulfilling these roles?
4. According to Genesis 1:27, both men and women have been equally created in the image of God. How do differing roles of leadership and submission fit with this?
5. What attitudes does a husband need to have in order to develop servant leadership?
6. How should a husband go about making decisions?

7. Men, ask your fiancée:
 - As your future husband, how can I begin to demonstrate sacrificial love to you?
 - Are there aspects of my leadership that make it difficult for you to trust, submit to, or follow me? Please explain with illustrations.
 - How would you evaluate my decision-making skills? Please explain with illustrations.
 - How can I pray for you and serve you in your pursuit of God?

8. Do you have any trouble agreeing with the biblical statement, “The head of the woman is man” (1 Corinthians 11:3) or that the woman does not have authority over the man (1 Timothy 2:11-15)?

9. Does respectful submission for the wife mean that she has to give up independent thought or activity? See Titus 2:3-5 and Proverbs 31.

10. What are things a wife can do to encourage and inspire the husband to lead?

11. Ladies, ask your fiancée:
 - Are there aspects of my submission that make it difficult for you to make decisions and lead me? Please explain with illustrations.
 - How would you evaluate my response to your decisions? Please explain with illustrations.
 - How can I pray for you and support you in your pursuit of God?

12. Men, what will be the hardest area of servant leadership for you? Ladies, what will be the hardest area of respectful submission for you? What will you do when you fail?

Recommended Resources:

- “The Fear of Christ is the Beginning of Wisdom” by David Powlison, *Journal of Biblical Counseling*, 17:2 (Winter 1999)
- *Becoming a Titus 2 Woman* by Martha Peace
- *The Exemplary Husband* by Stuart Scott