

Dealing With Relationships Ephesians 5:22-6:9

I. God's Provision For Us – 5:18-21

1. God's Spirit now indwells us – Rom. 8:9
He dwells in us to enable us to live godly
2. Paul urges us to give the Spirit control – 5:18
3. He gives us a joyful spirit – 19
Singing and making melody with your heart
4. He gives us a thankful spirit – 20
Giving thanks always to God for everything
5. He gives us a submissive spirit – 21
Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ
Note that this is "to one another"
There are two sides in every relationship
And we may at some point find ourselves on either side
The principle of submission fits on both sides
6. Paul addresses every day relationships
If God's provision doesn't work every day it's not practical
Most of us spend 90% of our time at Home or at work
Note the relationships that are mentioned
Husband & Wife – 5:22-33
Parent & Child – 6:1-4
Employer & Employee – 6:5-9
(Teacher & Student may apply)
Note how submission goes both sides of each relationship

II. Husband & Wife Relationship – 5:22-33

1. Wives submit to your own husband – 22
Marriage pictures relationship of Christ & His Church
Wife is to submit to husband as Church does to Christ
"For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the Church"
The Church is His body & He is "its Savior"
God established marriage as a picture of His relationship with us
2. What does headship mean?
Does not mean inequality – Note 1 Cor. 11:3
Responsibility for leadership, loving care & provision
Accountability for those given to Him – John 17
3. Jesus gives insight into leadership - Mk 10:35-44
James & John's request
Position of authority - 10:35-37
Response of other disciples – 41
They were indignant at James and John
Jesus sets forth principles of leadership – 42-45
Authority with Gentiles (unbelieving world) - 42
They lord it over others
Their great ones exercise authority over others
But it shall not be so among you – 43
Whoever would be great among you must be your

servant

- Whoever would be first, must be slave of all
True leadership means serving those under you
Jesus sets the example for us – 45
Son of Man came not to be served but to serve
He came to give His life a ransom for many
Leaders are to serve those under their responsibility
Husbands will give an account before God for this
By God's Spirit has he reflected this picture of marriage?
Wife comes along side to help husband carry out his responsibility
Joins with him in picturing this marriage relationship
With help of God's Spirit submitting to him
This principle of leadership seen in 1 Pet. 5:1-4
4. Husbands love your wives as Christ loved the church – 25
"Gave Himself up for her" – sacrificial love to meet her need
Willingly & lovingly gave Himself to meet her need
His focus was to minister to her need
As a husband is our focus to help our wife become all that God wants her to be?
 5. Note what Christ got in return for His love – 27
Christ will have a glorious church seated with Him
 6. This is God's pattern for husbands – 28-30
"In the same way husbands should love their wives"
As "their own bodies"
"He who loves his wife loves himself"
"No one ever hated his own flesh"
But nourishes and cherishes it" (TLC)
"Just as Christ does the church"
"Because we are members of His body"
 7. Our wife is our priority human relationship – 31
"Therefore a man shall leave his father & mother"
"Hold fast to his wife"
"the two shall become one flesh"
 8. "This mystery is profound" – 32
"It refers to Christ & the church"
This is the truth that God has now revealed
With the Spirit's help we should seek to live it out
Husbands love your wife as yourself
Wives see that you respect your husband