

INI-SDG

In the Name of Jesus – To God Alone the Glory

9.6.2009 Pentecost 14 – St. Stephen Lutheran (West Bay) Mountain View, CA

GREETING: Grace, mercy, and peace be to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Word of God I would like to lay upon your hearts this morning and for your lives is taken from:

TEXT: Ephesians 5:21-31 (NIV) 21 Submit to one another out of **reverence** for Christ.

Fearful awe, respect, love

22 Wives, **submit** to your husbands as to the Lord.

Obey, be under the direction or authority of

23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the **church**, his body, of which he is the Savior.

Every believer

24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

25 Husbands, **love** your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the **washing with water through the word**, 27 and to present her to himself as a **radiant** church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

Christian love, self sacrificing love

Baptismal washing

glorious

28 In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.

29 After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church—

30 for we are members of his body.

31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."

PRAYER/INTRO: What does **submission** look like?

THEME: SUBMIT TO ONE ANOTHER OUT OF REVERENCE FOR CHRIST.

What are we really hearing about in these verses? ...God's truth about relationships. Relationships with who?

1. **Christ to the Church / the Church to Christ**

a. As Christ to the Church **V23b**

i. What words define us *in God's eyes*? **V27b (Rom 8:7)**

ii. What did **submission** to God's plan of salvation look like? Jesus dying on the cross. **(Heb 2:14,15)**

iii. What we were... [Enter Christ] **V25b – 27** Now what we are! **(Is 61:10)**

b. As the Church to Christ **V24a**

i. **(1 Pet 3:22)** What does **submission** to Christ look like? **(Jn 10:27,28)**

ii. Anticipating, preparing, and longing for: **the wedding feast!** **(Rev 19:7-9)**: Bride to the Bridegroom...

2. **Husband to the wife / the wife to the husband [V31]**

a. **V23a; V25** As husband to the wife **V28**

i. Why this love? **(Creation: Gen 2:20)**

ii. Similar to our Heavenly Father... man's basic want is to be: a provider, respected, honored

iii. What does the husband's **submission** to his wife look like? Self-sacrificing love (rib) **(V31 – Gen 2:24)**

b. **V22** As the wife to the husband **V24**

i. Similar to the Holy Spirit... woman's basic want is to be: a comforter, nurturer, encourager

ii. What does the wife's **submission** to her husband look like? Obey and respect out of love **(V31)**

iii. Why this role? **(The Fall: Gen 3:16)** **(1 Tim 2:11-14)**

c. BOTH husband and wife! ALL of us! Pierces us to the heart... **(Eph 4:31,32)**

3. **Head to the body / the body to the head**

a. As the Head to the body **V29**

i. What does a head's **submission** to the body look like? Direction, care, avoidance of dangers

ii. Christ our Head – What our LORD does with His Word... **(V29b)** commands and supports! **(Jer 7:23)**

b. As the body to the head **V30**

i. What does a body **submitting** to the head look like? Care and protection of **every member**.

ii. Believers the body...obeys and follows the Head; supports others **(1 Jn 4:10,11)** (Christ, family, life)!

CLOSING: [V21] Ultimately, it's the Golden Rule, motivated by Christ, with God's rule for your individual role in life. May the Holy Spirit bless us with love for each other and for our Lord God equal to the love He has shown to us! Amen.