



## SESSION 2

### Expectations and Values

#### Ephesians 5:21-33

<sup>21</sup>Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

<sup>22</sup>Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. <sup>23</sup>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.<sup>24</sup>Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

<sup>25</sup>Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her<sup>26</sup>to make her holy, cleansing<sup>27</sup> her by the washing with water through the word, <sup>27</sup>and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. <sup>28</sup>In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup>After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— <sup>30</sup>for we are members of his body. <sup>31</sup>“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”<sup>32</sup> This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup>However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

#### ACTIVITY: Our Expectations (5 mins)

Take a minute to discuss the expectations activity you did before this session. We're there any areas of unexpressed expectation that you identified?

#### ACTIVITY: Living Out Your Values

Each of you choose your five top values and put them in order

Then put against each one how you hope to live out that value in the future. Use the list of examples below to help you but do not be limited by it. When you have finished, compare and discuss what you have each written.

**Examples of values:** Health, creativity, marriage relationship, sport, vocation/job, good stewardship of money and possessions, local community involvement, adventure, having fun, hospitality, friendships, care of the environment, nurturing children, ongoing education, spirituality/relationship with God, wider family, generosity, church activity

#### Example of how you might plan to live out a value:

Relationship with God: seek to pray together for each other every day

#### Values

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

#### Practicing Partnership



Genesis 2:18-24

18 The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

19 Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. 20 So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.

But for Adam[f] no suitable helper was found. 21 So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs[g] and then closed up the place with flesh. 22 Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib[h] he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

23 The man said,

"This is now bone of my bones

and flesh of my flesh;

she shall be called 'woman,'

for she was taken out of man."

24 That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

1. FAITH
2. FAMILY
3. CHILDREN
4. EXTENDED FAMILY
5. FINANCES
6. FRIENDSHIP
7. TIME APART

#### HOMEWORK ACTIVITY: Roles and Responsibilities

1. Each write down up to 6 areas for which you expect to take responsibility For example. Housework, cooking, paying bills, organising travel, thank you letters, driving, earning money, keeping the garden, shopping, insurance etc.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Each write down up to 6 areas you expect your fiancé to take responsibility

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Each write down up to 6 areas you expect will be a joint responsibility

1. \_\_\_\_\_



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2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

**When you have finished share lists.**

**In which of these areas do you expect your fiancé to take the lead in your marriage?**



## COMMITMENT

Matthew 16:24-28 NIV

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For whoever wants to save their life<sup>ἑαυτοῦ</sup> will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. <sup>26</sup>What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? <sup>27</sup>For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

<sup>28</sup>"Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

## The Marriage covenant

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### ACTIVITY: Why I love you (5 mins)

Write down five things that you love about your partner and then share them with each other. Try not to make it things that they do but what you love about them as a person, their characteristics and qualities.

### Activity: My promise to you (10 mins)

Take a few minutes, individually, to think about three promises you might want to make to your partner to show that you intend to put them first and commit to them.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_