

## Genesis 1-3 — Male & Female: Marriage Roles

### **Warm-Up Question:**

How did your parents function in their role as husband and wife? Discuss some things that were healthy and some things that were unhealthy.

**READ: Genesis 1:25-28; 2:18; 3:16; Ephesians 5:22-33**

### **I. ROLES: SERVANT LEADER**

- ▶ From Gen. 1:27 & 2:21-25, in what ways were man and women equally significant and needed to reflect the image of God?
- ▶ From Eph. 5:22-33, what is the unique role of the man in a marriage? What is man supposed to do toward his wife and why?
- ▶ How did Jesus demonstrate being a servant leader toward His bride, the church?

### **II. ROLES: STRONG HELPER**

- ▶ The word “helper” in Gen. 2:18 means a strong supporter and is often used for God “helping” His people in their time of need or weakness. How does this help us understand the wives role in marriage as a strong helper?
- ▶ How could the word “submission” in Eph. 5 actually produce joy and freedom in a marriage where the husband is striving to be a servant leader?
- ▶ How has the wife been given power to transform her husband to become more and more what God calls him to?

### **III. ROLES: SAVIOR JESUS**

- ▶ Eph. 5:32 shows how marriage is a picture of Christ and His Church. Discuss how Jesus took on the role as a servant leader Husband to His Bride the Church?
- ▶ **What is one way you'd like to change in your role as a husband/wife?**

Men, you'll never be a good groom to your wife unless you're first a good bride to Jesus.

God the Father accepts Jesus' gift and then exalts His Son to the highest of all honors. Likewise in marriage, husbands and wives both have an opportunity to gift submission, and exalt one another with love and honor. When looked at it this way submission becomes beautiful, rather than a ticking time bomb.

- Tim and Kathy Keller

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