

# Ephesians Series

Lesson #259

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Dean Bible Ministries

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# How Should the Husband Love? Ephesians 5:25–33



# EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK  
& WARFARE  
OF THE BELIEVER

# Gen. 3:15, The Aspect of the Judgment of Sin for Both the Woman and the Man

**General trend of women**

**Gen. 3:16, “... your desire shall be to control your husband,”**

Women trend toward wanting to be the leader

Solution: Submit to the leadership of the husband



**General trend of men**

**“But he shall domineeringly rule over you.” [~RD]**

Men trend toward being autocratic, as well as abdicating responsibility

Solution: Love your wife as Christ loved the Church

**Both reflect the core arrogant, “me first,” orientation of the sin nature.**

**Eph. 5:25**, “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

**Eph. 5:26**, “that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

**Eph. 5:27**, “that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

**Eph. 5:28**, “So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

**Eph. 5:29**, “For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.

**Eph. 5:30**, “For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.

**Eph. 5:31**, “ ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’

**Eph. 5:32**, “This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

**Eph. 5:33**, “Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.”

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## **Initial Observations**

- 1. Husbands are to love their wife as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her.**
- 2. Husbands ought to love their own wives as their own body.**
- 3. Illustration: no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes, i.e., husbands are to nourish and cherish their wife as Christ does the Church.**
- 4. We need to understand the mystery of Christ and the church to improve our own expression of love for our wives.**
- 5. We are to love our own wife as we love our selves.**



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## Context in Ephesians

**Eph. 4:1**, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,

**Eph. 4:2**, “with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, putting up with one another in love, [RD]

**Eph. 4:3**, “making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”  
[RD]

**ἀγάπη *agapē* fem sing dat love; the love of God for humanity, the love of Christ for the Church, the love of all believers for one another**

## Context in Ephesians

**Eph. 4:17, “This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind,”**

**Leadership/Authority of the husband is nothing like the ideas of leadership and authority in the world around us.**

**Matt. 20:25, “But Jesus called them to Himself and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them.**

**Matt. 20:26, “ ‘Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.**

**Matt. 20:27, “ ‘And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—**

**Matt. 20:28, “ ‘just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.’ ”**

## **Context in Ephesians**

**Eph. 4:32, “And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, graciously forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. [RD]”**

**Eph. 5:1, “Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.”**

**Eph. 5:2, “And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.”**

## Context in Ephesians

**Eph. 5:8, “For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light”**

**Eph. 5:15, “See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,”**

**Eph. 5:16, “by redeeming the time, because the days are evil.”**

## Context in Ephesians

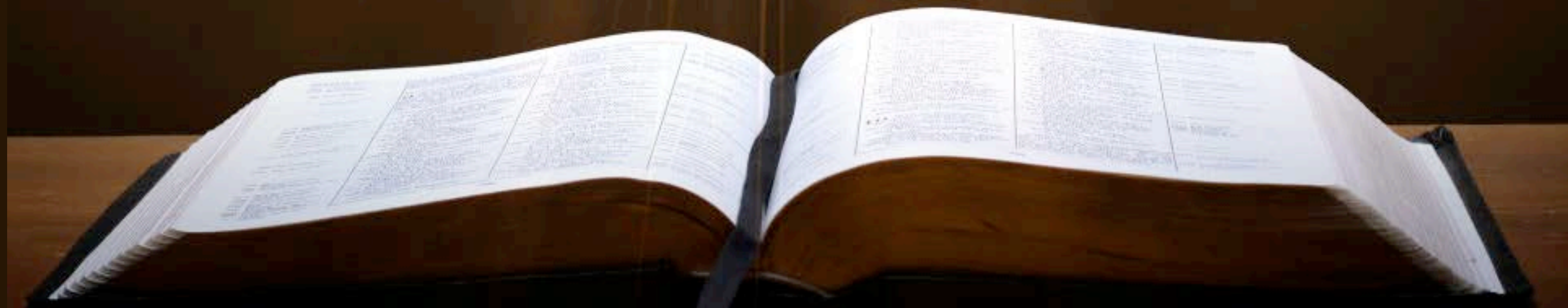
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aor act indic 3 sing  
to love

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act imperative 2 plur  
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# What the Bible Teaches About

## Love (*Christian Love*)





**The one and only acceptable starting point for defining love is the Bible and what the Bible says about God's love.**

**1 John 4:16, "... God is love."**

**1. The Old Testament (OT) speaks of God's love in terms that emphasize God's loyalty and faithfulness to His promises, especially to His people. A love not based on any merit in the object of love, but on the integrity of God who loves.**

**Deut. 7:7, "The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples;"**

**Deut. 7:7, “The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples;**

**Deut. 7:8, “but because the LORD loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.**

**Deut. 7:9, “Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments;”**

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**חשק *chashaq* qal perf 3 masc  
sing to attach something to  
someone, often to attach love  
to someone, to love, speaks of  
a profound inward attachment  
that will not let go**

**Deut. 10:15, “The LORD delighted only in your fathers, to love them; and He chose their descendants after them, you above all peoples, as it is this day.”**

**Isa. 38:17, “Indeed it was for my own peace that I had great bitterness; But You have lovingly delivered my soul from the pit of corruption, for You have cast all my sins behind Your back.”**

**Psa. 91:14, “Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name.”**

**Deut. 7:13, “And He will love you and bless you and multiply you; He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your land, your grain and your new wine and your oil, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flock, in the land of which He swore to your fathers to give you.”**

**אהב <sup>ʾahav</sup> Verb qal perf 3 masc  
sing general word for both  
divine love and human love**

**Psa. 36:7, “How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God!  
Therefore the children of men put their trust under the  
shadow of Your wings.”**

**חֶסֶד *chesed*-2 comm  
masc sing constr  
lovingkindness;  
steadfast loyalty to a  
covenant, faithful, loyal  
love**

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## 2. This love is demonstrated at the Cross.

**John 3:16, “For God loved the world in this way: He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” [RD]**

**ἀγαπάω *agapaō*  
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**Rom. 5:8, “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”**

**ἀγάπη *agapē*  
fem sing acc love**

**Eph. 5:2, “And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.”**

## 2. This love is demonstrated at the cross.

**1 John 4:9, “In this the love of [from] God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.”**

*ἀγάπη agapē*  
fem sing nom  
love

### 3. This love is expected of every believer toward every other believer.

Jn. 13:34, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

Jn. 13:35, “By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” [NKJV]

ἀγαπάω *agapaō*  
2 plur pres act subj  
to love

ἀγαπάω *agapaō*  
aor act indic 1 sing  
to love

**1 John 4:7, “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.”**

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*ἀγαπάω agapaō*

**2 plur pres act subj  
to love**

**1 John 4:10, “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**

**1 John 4:11, “Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.”**

**1 John 4:16, “And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.”**



**4. The mandate to the husband is an emphatic, specific reminder to him of the mandate to all believers to love one another, especially your wife.**

**John 15:12, “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”**

**John 15:13, “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.”**

**John 15:17, “These things I command you, that you love one another.”**

**5. This love expected of a Christian husband is impossible. It is only accomplished through the fruit of the Spirit.**

**Gal. 5:22, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,**

**Gal. 5:23, “gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”**

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