

*Questions for Reflection and Discussion*  
**Ephesians 5:21-24**  
*God's Plan for Marriage – Part One*

***Getting Started***

List five essential ingredients for a healthy marriage.

***Background***

In Eph 5:22 – 6:9, Paul gives instructions to guide three sets of relationships: wives & husbands, children & parents, and slaves & masters. All of this flows from his teaching in 5:18-21.

***Digging In***

1. **Read 5:18-21.** What is the basic command in v. 18?
2. What are some of the results of being filled with the Spirit? (5:19-21)
3. How is living under the control of the Holy Spirit a foundational principle for Paul's teaching in **5:22 – 6:9**?
4. **Read 5:22-24.** Write a paraphrase of this passage.
5. What role is given to wives in the marriage relationship?
6. What reason does Paul give in v. 23? Put this verse in your own words.
7. Read Genesis 2:15-25. How do these verses provide a bedrock rationale for what God tells us in Eph 5:22-24?
8. How is the relationship between the church and Christ a model for the relationship between wives and husbands? (v. 24)
9. What additional insights can we gain from 1 Peter 3:1-6?



***Getting Personal***

- Why do you think the biblical teaching on marriage is a difficult concept for many in our culture to accept?
- What is your personal reaction to Paul's teaching in Eph 5:22-24?
- How can a husband make it easier or harder for his wife to submit to his leadership?
- What key insights have you gained from this passage?