

Questions for Personal Reflection or Group Discussion

Supplemental Notes

- Dr. Payne points out that in Paul's teaching on marriage in 1 Corinthians 7, he "identifies twelve issues and he treats with perfect symmetry the man and the woman". The twelve issues are equally balanced for husbands and wives to demonstrate mutuality in marriage.
 - The twelve issues are in: I Corinthians 7: 2, 3, 4, 5, 10-11, 12-13, 14, 15, 16, 28, 32-34a, and 33-34b.
 - For instance, in verse 3 he says the husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and, in the same verse Paul says the wife should fulfill her marital duty to her husband.
 - And in verses 33-34b, he says a married man is concerned about his wife and, likewise, a married woman is concerned about her husband.

Opening Thoughts

1. Can you think of an instance (at work, home or church), when you struggled with who should make a decision? How was it resolved?



Closing Thoughts

1. How does Paul's instruction to submit to one another (Ephesians 5:21) change the way you think of the passage saying wives are to submit to their husbands (Ephesians 5:22), especially in light of Dr. Payne's insight that the earliest Greek manuscripts do not actually have the word submit in verse 22?

2. Why do you think Paul, writing to the first century church, instructed the wives to submit to their husbands and slaves to obey their masters, when also he taught that they were one in Christ?

3. What is your impression of 1 Corinthians 7, Paul's teaching on marriage?

4. How would you respond to someone who says the husband is supposed to make the final decisions in the home?
 - a. What if they say "Without one person making the decisions, it would be chaos"?

 - b. What suggestions do you have for a healthy decision-making process?

5. It has been said that "Mutuality in the home, church and society threatens the very fabric of society, and threatens manhood as we know it". What is your response?



Conclusion

1. In your own mind, what issues about the roles of men and women have these been clarified by this video series?
2. How has the study of biblical mutuality affected you personally?
3. What challenge is there for you as a result of hearing these speakers?

Additional References

Still Side by Side pages 29-30, 8-10

https://www.cbeinternational.org/sites/default/files/SSBS-a4-ENGLISH-complete_web.pdf

Short Answers to Challenging Texts: Ephesians 5:18-33 / Allison Young

<https://www.cbeinternational.org/resources/article/other/short-answers-challenging-texts-ephesians-518-33>

Ten Lies the Church Tells Women / J. Lee Grady

<https://www.cbeinternational.org/resources/article/other/ten-lies-church-tells-women>

Summary: Examining the Twelve Biblical Pillars of Male Hierarchy / Philip B. Payne

<https://www.cbeinternational.org/resources/article/other/examining-twelve-biblical-pillars-male-hierarchy>