



Are We There Yet? Week #2 Notes

Ephesians 5:21-28 New International Version (NIV)

21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. 22 Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. 23 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. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. 28 In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.

Three responses to the collision

Cut

Comply

Compromise

Ephesians 5:21 New International Version (NIV)

21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Main Idea: Close the gaps between your DESIRES and EXPECTATIONS through Christ.

A fourth responses to the collision

Cut.

Comply.

Compromise.

CHRIST.

Ephesians 5:21 New International Version (NIV)

21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

1 Peter 5:6-7 New International Version (NIV)

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

1 Peter 5:7 New International Version (NIV)

7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

The How: Create an atmosphere of humble love to heal your marriage.



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Philippians 2:3-8 New International Version (NIV)

3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; 7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Main Idea: Close the gaps between your DESIRES and EXPECTATIONS through Christ.

Talk about it:

Break the Ice: Share about your favorite romantic comedy movie and why you love it, or your favorite love story that you know about.

2. Read Ephesians 5:21 several times together. Why is it so crucial that God's call to mutual submission form the foundation of a healthy married life?

3. Pastor Mike mentioned three kinds of relationship responses. What are the potential dangers of each of these possible responses?

4. Read 1 Peter 5:6-7 several times and discuss.

How can Jesus help you to convert your expectations back to desires? What would the result be if you were to practice this truth more often in your marriage? If you are not married, how does this translate to other relationships?

5. Read Philippians 2:1-11 and discuss.

How could imitating the humble love of Jesus affect your marriage or relationships? What steps do you need to take to be able to live out that kind of love; can you think of specific situations?

Bonus questions for couples..

Where do you feel pressure to live up to my expectations?

What can I do to make our marriage richer?