

Love Like Jesus Ephesians 5:19-30

Men Are From Mars, Women From Venus, by Dr. John Gray

Once upon a time Martians and Venusians met, fell in love, and had happy relationships together because they respected and accepted their differences. Then they came to Earth and amnesia set in: they forgot they were from different planets! Using this metaphor to illustrate the commonly occurring relationship conflicts between men and women, Dr. John Gray explains how these differences can hinder effective communication.

Ephesians 5 describes how Christians should get along in this world.

Love like Jesus loved us.

“Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children² and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”

--Ephesians 5:1-2

Loving like Jesus means **submission**.

“Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.” --Ephesians 5:19

The verses that follow describe how we submit to one another.

1. Wives 5:22-24
2. Husbands 5:25-33
3. Children 6:1-3
4. Fathers 6:4
5. Slaves 6:5-8
6. Masters 6:9

1. Submit to one **another**

Matthew 18:15-17 describes the biblical prescription for **restoring** peace and harmony in the church family.

“¹⁵If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. ¹⁶But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector...” --Matthew 18:15-17

Matthew 18 teaches what to do when things don't work out, problems **exist**, relationships **collapse**, and habits of healthy daily living are not followed.

“²⁹Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³²Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” --Ephesians 4:29-32

Habits for healthy, daily living described by Ephesians 4:29-32:

- No **unwholesome** speech
- Helpful and edifying **words**
- **Empty** self of bitterness, anger, and brawling,
- Be kind and **compassionate**,
- **Forgive**.

Give others the **benefit** of the **doubt**.

2. Wives

²²*Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.*

–Ephesians 5:22-24

The Lord speaks to us at our place of weakness.

Men often lean toward **independence**, selfishness, and **distance**.

Women often **nag**, and browbeat to get their **way**.

God presents the counter, the antidote.

Show **respect**.

Show love and **appreciation**.

Show **submission**.

The way to a man's heart may be through building up his **character**.

3. Husbands

“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.”

–Ephesians 5:25

To love like Christ is to practice Godly, **Agape** love.

“⁴Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.” --1 Cor. 13:4-7

God calls men to love, lead, and submit by **sacrificial** service.

Memory verse:

“Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.” –Ephesians 5:19