



# All Christians' Fellowship International

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## *Study to show "The Way of True Life." Bible Study Outline*

TOPIC:       **God's Design for Husbands**  
TEXT:       **Ephesians 5:21-33**

**Instructions:** - *Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone can participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone equal opportunity to participate.*

**Introduction:** After watching two of his daughters fall in love, Tevye (the father in Fiddler on the Roof) wonders if anything like that ever happened to his wife, Golde. So, he asks her, "Do you love me?" She recites the details of how faithfully she has served all of his needs. "But do you love me?" he asks again. His wife looks back over twenty-five years of satisfying marriage and admits, "I suppose I do." That kind of love, which is far deeper than emotional infatuation, has continuing power. Read Ephesians 5:21-33.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Think of a marriage you admire. What impresses you about the ways these couples demonstrate love?

1. What stands out about the husband's responsibilities in God's design for marriage in the text you read?

2. How would Paul's basic command, stated in three different ways (vs. 25, 28, 33), help a man to be a better husband? How does this compare with your ideas of what a husband should be or do?

3. Christ's love for the church is an example of how to love your wife. Why and how did Christ express his love for the church (vv. 25-27)?

4. How can a husband follow Christ's example in his motives and actions with his wife?

5. A husband is to love his wife as his own body (v. 28). In what ways do you love and care for your body?

6. How can a husband follow Jesus' example to "nourish and cherish." (v: 29 RSV) his wife as Christ does his body, the church?

7. The thought of Christ's union with his body prompts Paul to quote God's original design from Genesis 2:24. What new depth of meaning does Paul find in the marriage union?

8. In verse 33, Paul summarizes the basic instructions to husbands and wives. Why are these commands to love and respect unconditionally?

9. Why does the Bible emphasize responsibilities rather than privileges or rights?

10. Look back to verse 21. What do you see as the significance of verse 21 framing this discussion?

11. As a husband, what one step could you take toward fulfilling this picture of your role?

12. As a wife, how can you help your husband take this step?