

NOVEMBER 1

THE POWER BEHIND CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

COLOSSIANS 3:18-19

DISCUSSING GOD'S WORD

1. Compare verses 18-19 to Ephesians 5:22-33. Why does Paul define the roles of husbands and wives the way that he does?
2. How is a husband called to both lead and serve at the same time? How do these things (leading and serving) work together?
3. What does it mean for a woman to submit to her husband? What does it not mean?

APPLYING GOD'S WORD

1. Why is the idea of submission so difficult and controversial?
2. What are the typical ways our sin nature distorts these roles of leadership and submission?
3. What relationship does Paul give as the model for these roles in Ephesians 5, and how does that model help us to avoid our normal distortions?

PRAYING GOD'S WORD

1. Heavenly Father, strengthen and heal the marriages in our church family. Give married couples a great love for one another that would reflect your great love for us.
2. Heavenly Father, help us to grow in our understanding of marriage. Help us to see and understand these roles in marriage as you see and understand them.