

EPHESIANS

TRANSFORMED BY GRACE, EMPOWERED BY PEACE

STUDY 17 MARRIAGE MADE IN HEAVEN

Ephesians 5: 22-33



Living and working out spiritual
transformation in the church

EPHESIANS 5

1. Children of the Light v1-21
2. Marriage made in heaven v 22-33

Marriage is on the decline



FALLING TREND OF MARRIAGE



- In 100 countries 1970 to 2005. Marriage rates fell in four-fifths of them.
- Among countries that experienced a reduction, the average rate fell from 8.2 marriages per 1,000 to just 5.2,

A photograph of a couple from behind, holding a large Australian flag. They are standing on a grassy hill with a rocky cliff in the background under a clear blue sky. The woman is wearing a light blue denim jacket and jeans, and the man is wearing a light blue long-sleeved shirt and dark pants. The flag is held high, showing the Union Jack and the seven-pointed stars.

Marriage rates

12 per 100 Residents 1940

3.1 per 1000 Residents 2021

MARRIAGE RATES LOWEST IN 36 YEARS

68.3 mil marriages in 2022 half the rate of 134 million in 2013





**ONLY ONE THIRD OF YOUNG
SOUTH KOREANS FEEL
POSITIVELY ABOUT
MARRIAGE, SURVEY FINDS**

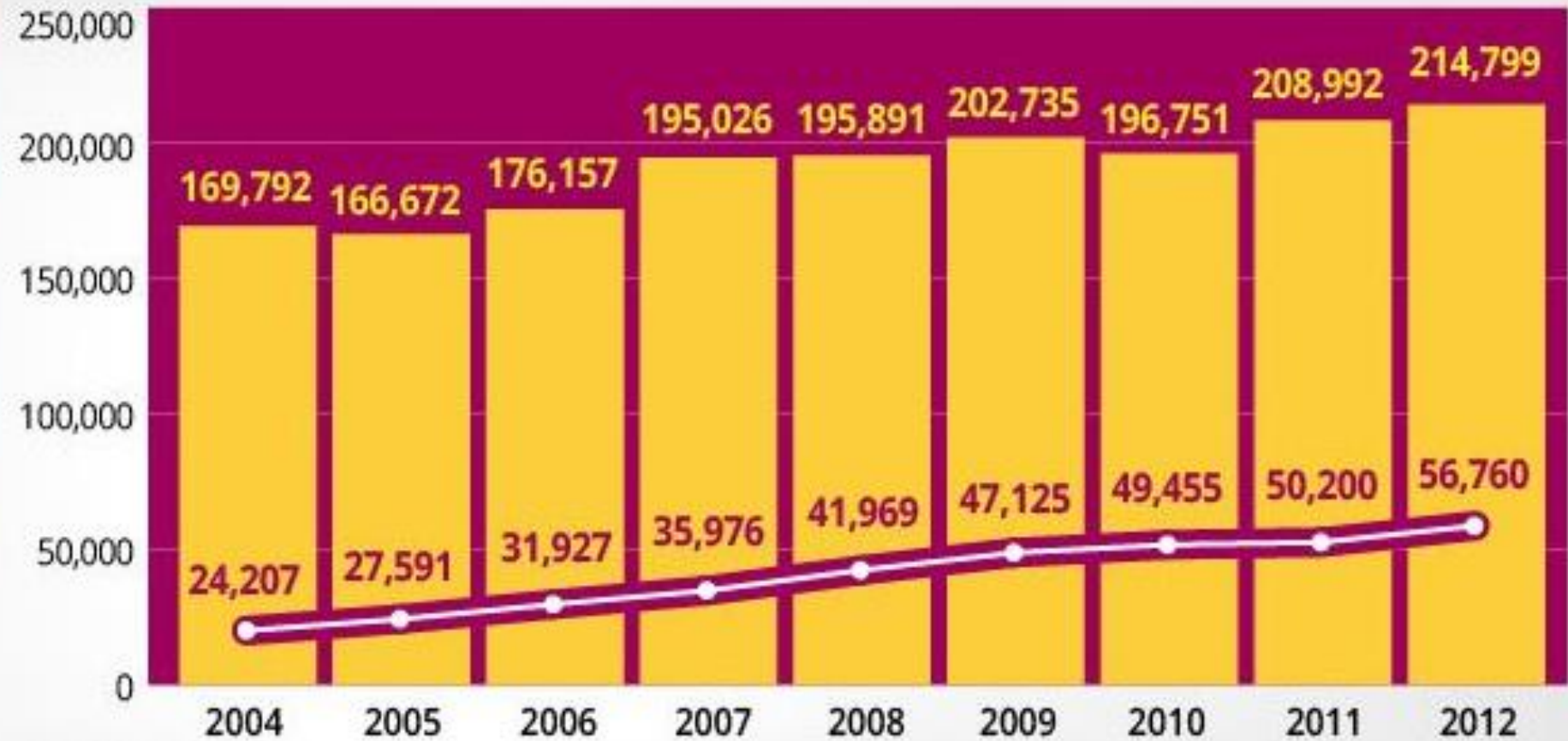
BY JESSIE YEUNG AND GAWON BAE, CNN
PUBLISHED 11:37 PM EDT, TUE AUGUST 29,
2023

ONE DIVORCE IN MALAYSIA EVERY 10 MINUTES PUBLISHED 4 YEARS AGO ON 03 MARCH 2014 BY BOO SU-LYN

NUMBER OF MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES IN MALAYSIA 2004-2012



- Marriage
- Divorce



Source: Syariah Judiciary Department Malaysia (JKSM), Islamic Development Department (Jakim) and Statistics Department

Graphics: themalaymailonline.com

SUBJECTIVE WELL-BEING AND ADAPTATION TO LIFE EVENTS: A META-ANALYSIS. LUHMANN M, HOFMANN W, EID M AND LUCAS RE

- 18 Long term studies on the effect of major life events on subjective well being
- marriage, divorce, bereavement, childbirth
- N = 65,911
- 11 of these studies were based only on those who stayed married and excluded divorcees

TAKE AWAY MESSAGE

- Marriage did *not* result in getting happier or more satisfied
- Life satisfaction and relationship satisfaction decreased with time

CONTEXT OF MARRIAGE

- Ephesians 5:18-32 (ESV) And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but **be filled with the Spirit,** 19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, 20 giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
• 21 submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

What mutual submission looks like
In Household codes

Mutual Submission

Ephesians 5:21 (ESV) submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Submission /Service Marriage

Ephesians 5:22 (ESV)
Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.
Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,

Obedience/Care Child -Parent

Ephesians 6:1
(ESV) Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

Obedience/Care Slave to Master

Ephesians 6:5 (ESV)
Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ,

THE DESIGN CONCEPT

Ephesians 5: 21 submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

WHY?

THE PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE

- Ephesians 5:22-33 (ESV) 22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.
- 25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. 28 In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, 30 because we are members of his body. 31 “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” 32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. 33 However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

MARRIAGE PARADIGM- OF UNION

Husband –wife one flesh



Christ –Church oneness



HOW THE GOSPEL IMPACTS RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE CHURCH EPHESIANS 4-5A

- Maintaining unity
- Diversity to build up church
- Different members working together
- Embracing truth build up one another
- Rejecting anger and bitterness based on Christ forgiveness
- Living in love in community..reject immorality, covetousness
- Living in the light

**HOW THE GOSPEL IMPACTS
SPECIFIC RELATIONSHIPS
EPHESIANS 5B-6A**

- Marriage
- Family
- Work

Submission

Ephesians 5:22-24 (ESV) Wives, **submit** to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. 24 Now as the church **submits** to Christ, so also wives should **submit** in everything to their husbands.

Gospel

MARRIAGE

Service

Ephesians 5:25-27 (ESV)

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

Gospel

MARRIAGE

LIVING UNDER THE CURSE

Genesis 3:16 (ESV) To the woman he said,

“I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children.

Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you.”

SUSAN B ANTHONY

*"THE WORST ENEMY WOMEN
HAVE IS IN THE PULPIT."*



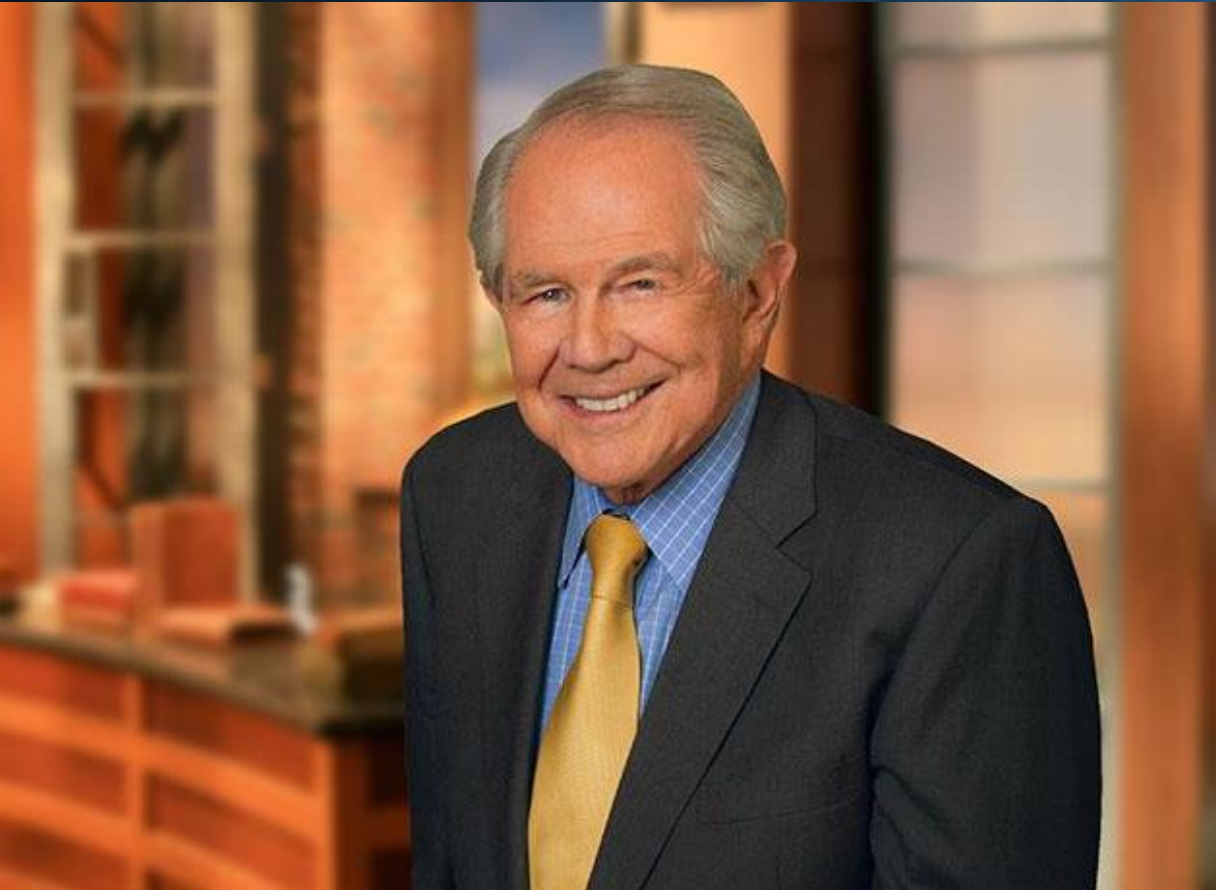


HELEN HAMILTON GARDENER

This religion and the Bible require of woman everything, and give her nothing. They ask her support and her love, and repay her with contempt and oppression ... Every injustice that has ever been fastened upon women in a Christian country has been 'authorised by the Bible' and riveted and perpetuated by the pulpit

1885

EVANGELIST PAT ROBERTSON 1992



"Feminism is a socialist, anti-family, political movement that encourages women to leave their husbands, kill their children, practice witchcraft, destroy capitalism and become lesbians".

Traditionalist



Egalitarian



THE REASON FOR SUBMISSION-HEADSHIP

Ephesians 5:22-27 (ESV) Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For **the husband is the head of the wife** even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. 24 Now as the **church submits to Christ**, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

Basis ----headship and Manner



THE NATURE OF HEADSHIP-KEPHALE

- Leadership...Authority
- Pre-eminence
- Source—Sustainer

Design and Semantics

Authority/ Control Submission



Marriage

Service

Submission

S

Marriage



SEMANTICS

Univocal

One meaning
all the time

. “tasty” breakfast and
“tasty” desert

Equivocal

Two or more
meanings

Bark – tree or dog

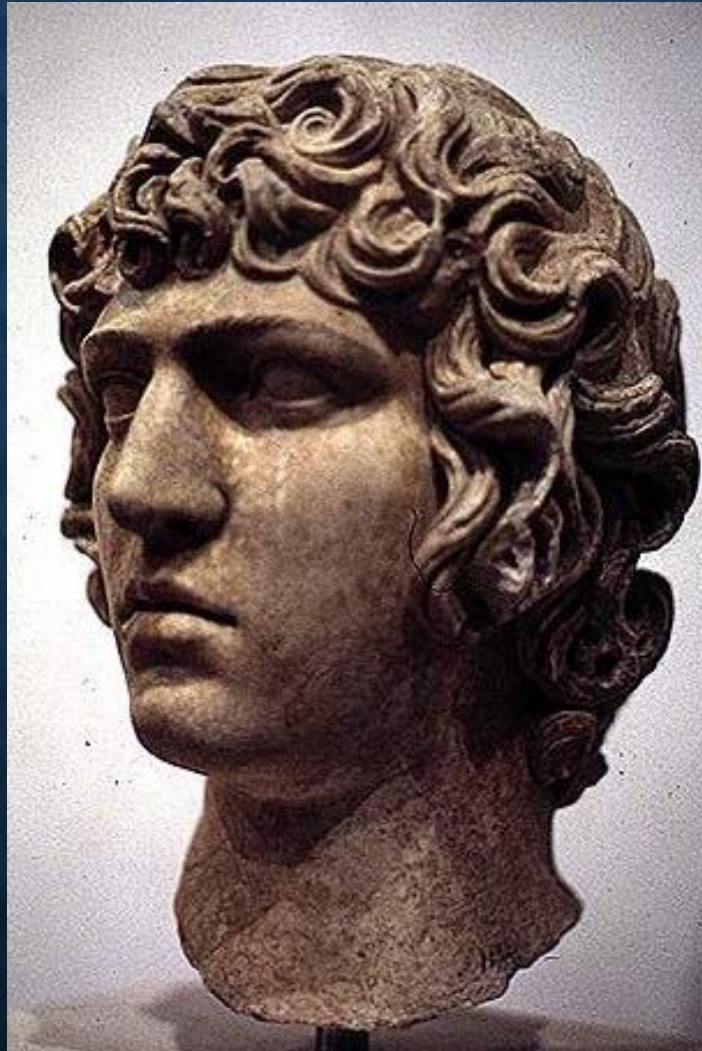
Analogical

Partly the same
and partly
different

God is good, Grapes
are good

ANALOGICAL USE OF WORDS

Jesus is Head



Husband is Head

HEADSHIP USE IN CHRIST

Ephesians 4:15-16 (ESV) Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into **Christ**, 16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

HEADSHIP USE IN CHRIST--- SUPERIORITY

Ephesians 1:22 And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

HEADSHIP USE IN MAN ORIGINAL DESIGN- EQUAL AND DIFFERENT

Genesis 1:27 (ESV) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

ORIGINAL DESIGN- EQUAL AND DIFFERENT

Genesis 2:18 (ESV) Then the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”

What he lacked (“not good”) she supplied; and it would be safe to say that what she lacked, he supplied, for life in common requires mutual help.

HELPER(EZER) DESCRIBES GOD

Deuteronomy 33:7 (ESV) And this he said of Judah:

“Hear, **O Lord**, the voice of Judah, and bring him in to his people. With **your hands** contend for him, and be **a help** against his adversaries.”

HELPER (EZER) DESCRIBES GOD

1 Samuel 7:12 (ESV) then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen and called its name Ebenezer; for he said, “Till now the Lord has **helped us.**”

Forbes

AUGUST 31, 2018



\$900 MILLION
COSMETICS QUEEN
KYLIE JENNER

AT 21, SHE'S SET TO BE
THE YOUNGEST-EVER
SELF-MADE BILLIONAIRE.
WELCOME TO THE ERA OF
EXTREME FAME LEVERAGE.

AMERICA'S WOMEN BILLIONAIRES

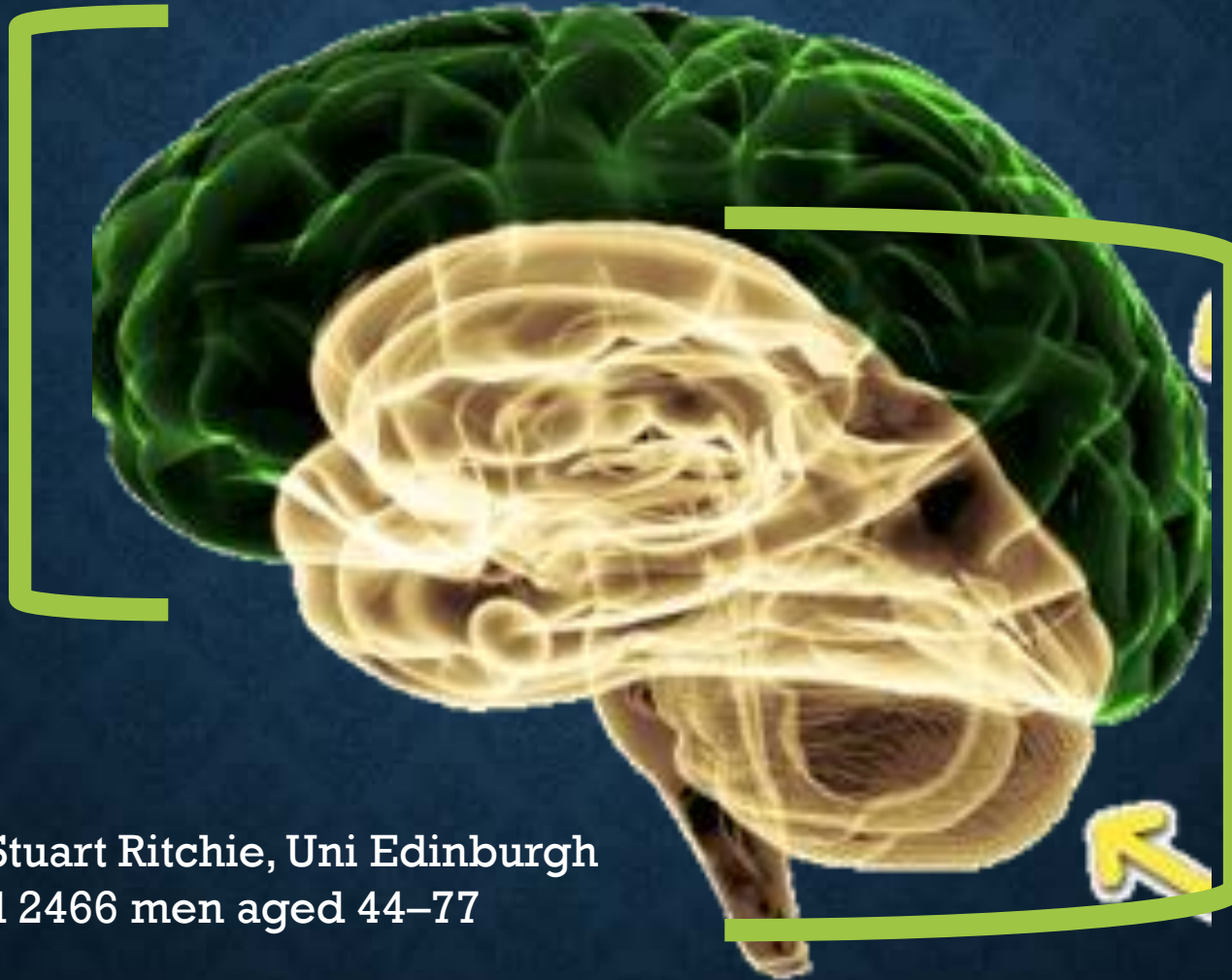
FROM A TRUCKING TITAN TO THE IMMIGRANT TAKING
ON ELON MUSK IN SPACE, OUR ANNUAL RANKING OF
THE 60 RICHEST SELF-MADE WOMEN

“Emotional intelligence is responsible for 58% of performance in all types of jobs, and 90% of top performers are high in EQ”

Why Women are smarter than men
Travis Bradberry 21/6/2016

Thicker cortex assoc with higher scores on cognitive and general intelligence scores

Women
have
thicker
cortex



Men have
larger
subcortical
brains

UK Biobank Study Stuart Ritchie, Uni Edinburgh
In 2750 women and 2466 men aged 44–77

HEADSHIP IS NOT SUPERIORITY- SUBMISSION IS NOT INFERIORITY

1 Corinthians 11:8-12 (ESV) For man was not made from woman, but woman from man. 9 Neither was man created for woman, but woman for man. 10 That is why a wife ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels. 11 Nevertheless, in

the Lord woman is not independent of man **nor man of woman;**

12 for as woman was made from man, **so man is now born of woman.** And all things are from God.

SUBMISSION IS NOT INFERIORITY

Intrinsic value not diversity of roles

Galatians 3:26-28 (ESV) for in Christ Jesus you are all **sons of God** through faith. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is **no male and female**, for you are **all one in Christ Jesus**.

ROLES REMAIN BUT ARE TRANSFORMED

Slaves

Eph 6:5)

Bondservants, obey
your earthly masters
with fear and
trembling,

Masters

Ephesians 6:9 (ESV) Masters, do
the same to them, and stop your
threatening, knowing that he who
is both their Master and yours is in
heaven, and that there is no
partiality with him

Slaves do not become Masters and Masters do not become slaves
Remain in roles but transformed in motive and service

NATURE OF HEADSHIP-SACRIFICIAL SERVICE

Ephesians 5:25-26 (ESV) **Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,**

Sacrificial submission of personal desires to serve her spiritual good

Mutual Submission


Ephesians 5:21 (ESV) submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Submission

Ephesians 5:22 (ESV)
Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

Service/Sacrifice

Ephesians 5:25-26 (ESV)
Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,

A man and a woman are standing in a kitchen, facing each other and appearing to be in a heated conversation. The man is on the left, wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt and jeans. The woman is on the right, wearing a light blue short-sleeved shirt and jeans. The kitchen background includes a sink, a coffee maker, and various kitchen items on the counter.

I want a blue car

You are supposed to submit

You are
supposed
to sacrifice
I want a red car

Headship – Final decision for
good of wife and family

GENDER ROLE CONFUSION





GENDER ROLES

*What makes you
masculine or feminine
is not what you do but
who you are*

Traditionalist



Egalitarian



Concepts of masculinity and femininity





**PROVERBS 31:10 (ESV) AN
EXCELLENT WIFE WHO CAN
FIND? SHE IS FAR MORE
PRECIOUS THAN JEWELS.**

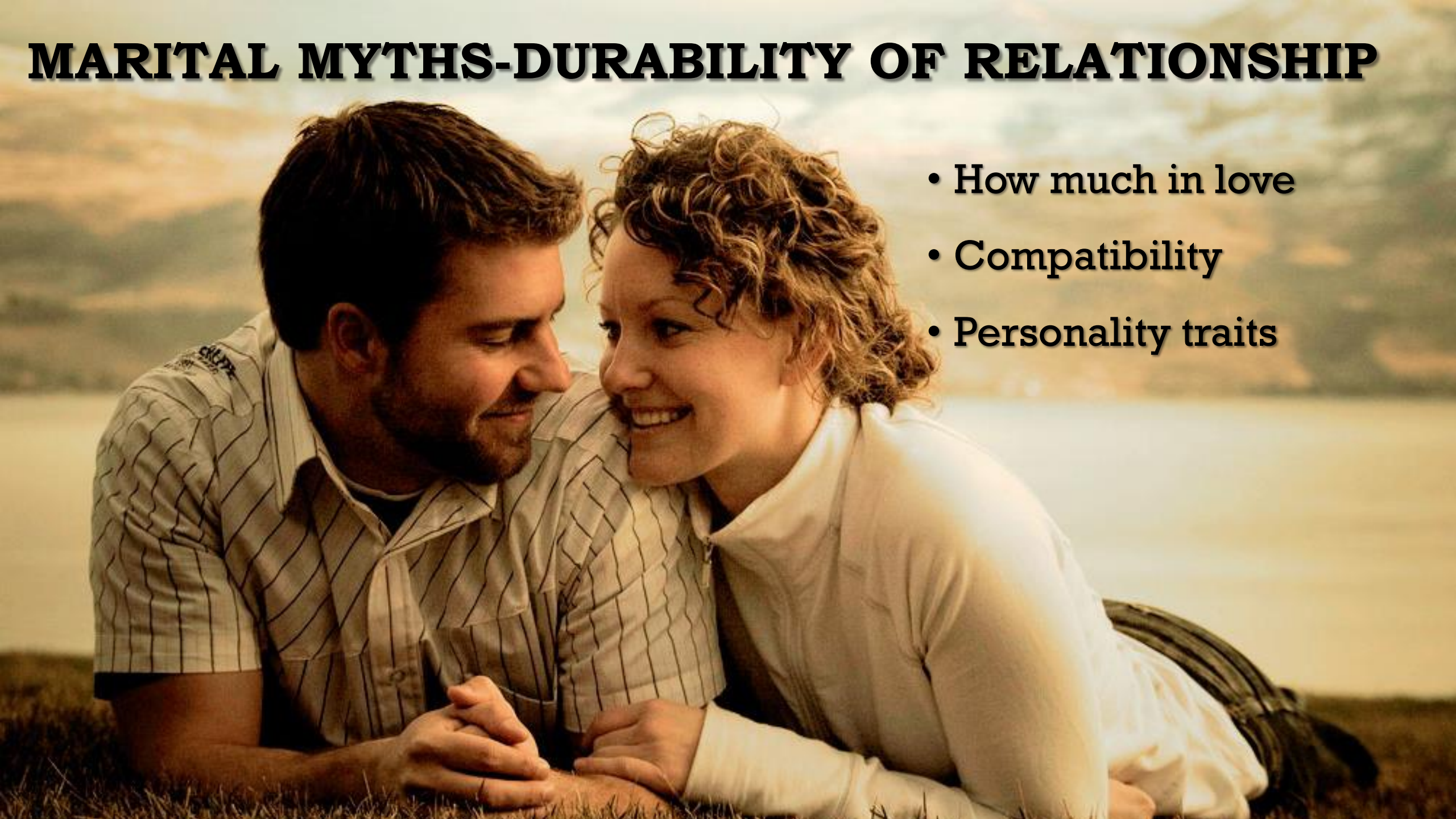
- Feeds her family getting up early
- Engages in business –buys field
- Invests in land -Build vineyard farms and sells the produce
- Sews through the night
- Feeds the poor
- Clothes entire family
- Clothing business ..makes and sells
- Teaches her household

*Choosing the right
life partner*



MARITAL MYTHS-DURABILITY OF RELATIONSHIP

- How much in love
- Compatibility
- Personality traits



MAHATIR MOHAMMAD CNN 2/8/18



We learn to tolerate each other. Initially, of course, we quarreled quite often. I am very strict about time and all that and she takes a lot of time, is late and all that. We used to quarrel over that but I realized that I could not change her and she could not change me, so we accepted that we are different.



GEORGE LEVINGER
PROF PSYCHOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF
MASSACHUSETTS,

"What counts in making a happy marriage is not so much how compatible you are, but how you deal with incompatibility."

Is she to love her husband too?

Ephesians 5:28 (ESV) In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.



EFFECT OF SIN –CONFLICT AND TYRANNY

Genesis 3:16 (NIV) To the woman he said, “I will make your pains in childbearing very severe, with painful labor you will give birth to children . Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you

(ESV) Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you.”

Genesis 4:6-7 (NIV) Then the Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? 7 If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.



Service

Desire to control

Influence of Christ

Marriage

NATURE OF SUBMISSION AND LOVE REDEMPTION OF MARRIAGE

- Ephesians 5:22-30 (ESV) 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.
- 25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,

Not based on merit

We did not deserve His
love and we were
unlovely. He loved us to
make us lovely



COVENANT

31 “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”

Not declaration of present love but a
binding promise of future love



Covenant

How much I am willing to give
Love is an action

Feeling

Here is how much I want from you
Love is an infection

THE NATURE OF FALLING IN LOVE

Deep need for affirmation is
bring fulfilment



SBS

Transactional love

Christ

Real love

Conditional and
non vulnerable

Unconditional and
radically vulnerable

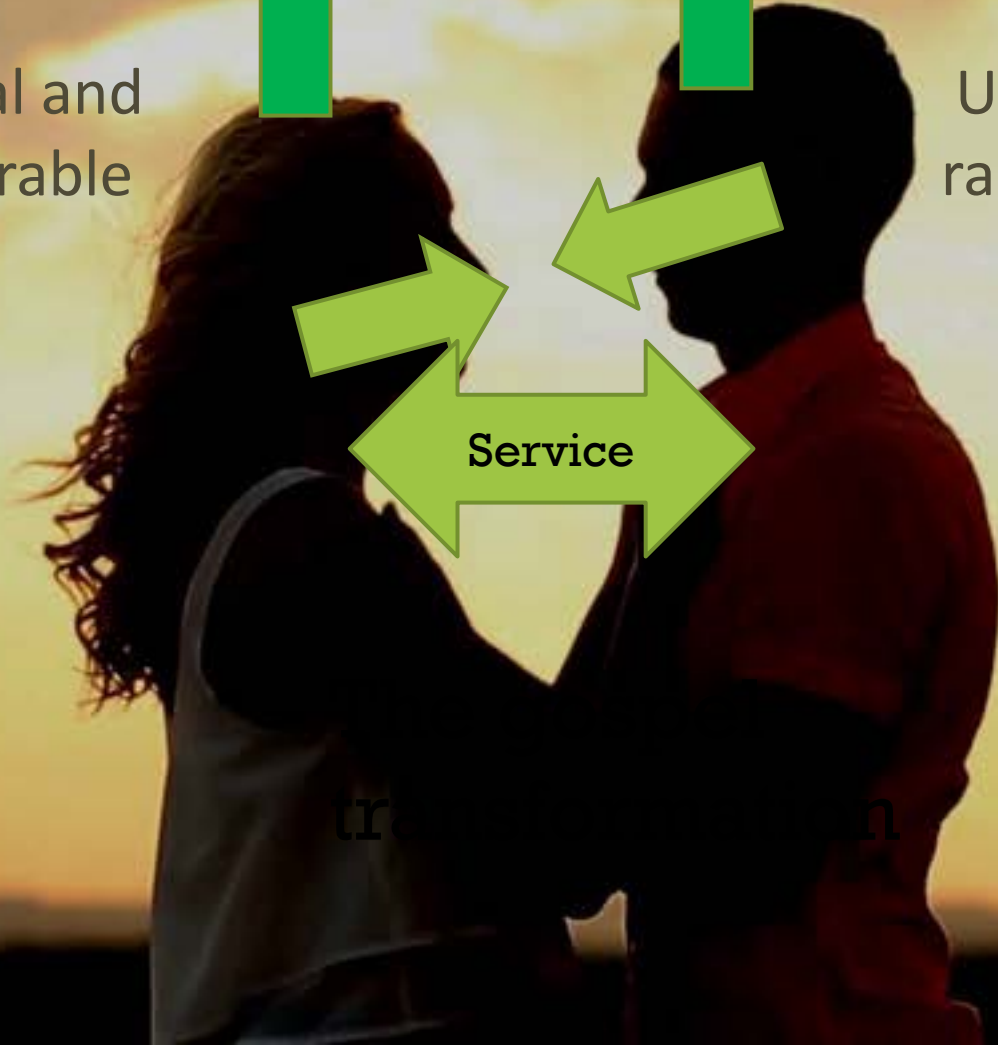
Submit to
husband as to
the Lord

Love wife as
Christ loves the
church

Strong and
humble

Strong and
humble

Service



PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE-SANCTIFICATION

Ephesians 5:26-27 (ESV) that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.


WHAT SUBMISSION IS NOT

- Obedience to everything
- Not thinking
- Avoiding the effort to change or influence the spouse
- Getting all of her spiritual strength through her husband
- Acting in fear

ONE FLESH: DEVELOPING ONENESS

Ephesians 5:31 (ESV) Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”

AFFIRMATION ----CONFRONTATION

A man and a woman are sitting on a grey couch in a bright, modern living room. They are facing each other and smiling warmly. The man is on the left, wearing a light blue button-down shirt. The woman is on the right, wearing a light-colored top. The background shows a white shelf with books and a window with white frames.

In stable marriages, there are at least five times more positive interactions than negative ones

CONFRONTATION...CLEANSES YOU AND MESHES



Covenant enables us to be true



tr n

THE MYSTERY

Ephesians 5:31-33 (ESV) Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” 32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. 33 However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

PREVIOUSLY HIDDEN TO BE REVEALED



TWO MYSTERIES IN EPHESIANS

Jew Gentile fellow heirs
Ephesians 3



Husband and wife
Ephesians 5





THE GOSPEL

not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes...
 ~ Romans 1:16, ESV ~

ar

NEW COMMUNITY

The dividing line of hostility

Court of Gentiles
Those who were far off



Sacrifice
Oppress

Desire to control
Submit

Influence of Christ

Marriage

MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB

Revelation 19:6-8 (ESV) “Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. 7 Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; 8 it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure” — for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.