

Recap of 10/8/17:

1. *The fourth biblical principle of marriage is: Fulfill God given roles. Ephesians 5:22-33; Colossians 3:18-19; 1 Peter 3:1-6.*
2. *The following is a Biblical theology of marriage and roles in marriage:*
 - God's desire for the marriage relationship is summarized in the word 'oneness,' a monogamous, heterosexual, lifelong union (Genesis 2:24)*
 - Roles in marriage are based upon the creation order not culture (Genesis 2; 1 Timothy 2:13; 1 Corinthians 11:8,9)*
 - the Fall (Genesis 3) marred the oneness of the marriage relationship and brought struggle and conflict into marriage, a battle for control, Biblical roles were marred.*
 - the goal is to restore proper Biblical roles, which is possible through the power of the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18ff)*
 - roles are not demeaning (1 Corinthians 11:3)*
3. *Biblical roles in marriage are best summarized by the words "love" and "respect" in Ephesians 5:33 (Husband's love your wives, wives respect your husbands).*
4. *Husbands are to exercise loving, servant leadership not "dictatorial dominion" over their wives. Husbands are to build up their wives not tear them down with surly attitudes or sharp words. They are to treat their wives with consideration and understanding. A husband has authority in marriage to: lead in forgiveness; to take responsibility for the spiritual health and growth of his marriage and family; to de-escalate conflict; and to pray for his wife and family.*
5. *Wives are to respect and respond to their husband's leadership and not compete with him for leadership of the family. The word "submit" is a military term meaning "to place oneself under another's authority." It is "not slavish obedience." The issue is order and harmony in the home. It is a functional distinction. The goal is to restore the order that was lost in the Fall, and to prevent the home from being a battleground. This submission is:*
 - prompted by a husband's unselfish love*
 - implies no inferiority to men (just different functions but mutual dependency)*
 - limited to the marriage relationship (she is to submit to "her own husband," doesn't mean all women to all men!)*
 - voluntary, not forced (a middle voice verb in Greek meaning something she does for herself)*
 - a call for a wife to trust God to overrule her husband in unwise decisions and protect her.*