

## HOW TO DEADEN OR DESTROY YOUR MARRIAGE Pt. 3 (Or You Can See It Built, God's Way)

- What principles does God want you to grasp as a believer in Christ before He explains and exhorts you through Paul about marriage in Ephesians 5?
  - 1) God views your identity as first and foremost \_\_\_\_\_, not in your marital status, external looks, financial condition, gender, race, or successes & failures. (1:3)
  - 2) God has blessed you with all \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ and you are \_\_\_\_\_ in Him (Col. 2:10), having all the resources to spiritually grow and experience genuine change into Christ-likeness in your marriage & family. (1:3)
  - 3) God views you as \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ (chosen in Him). (1:4)
  - 4) God has a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for your life. (1:4-6a)
  - 5) God \_\_\_\_\_ you in Christ on the basis of grace the moment of faith alone in Him whether your mate does or not. (1:6b)
  - 6) God has \_\_\_\_\_ you through Christ's blood and has \_\_\_\_\_ you of all your sins according to the riches of His grace. (1:7)
  - 7) God has \_\_\_\_\_ you with the \_\_\_\_\_ guaranteeing your eternal security with unending love and a future glorification of your body (1:13-14).
  - 8) God wants you to know that you have been \_\_\_\_\_ by His grace apart from your works, and that He has a plan for you that now includes \_\_\_\_\_ that you should walk therein, including in your local church, marriage, family and on the job (2:8-10).
  - 9) God wants you to now walk in a manner \_\_\_\_\_ with your new position in Christ involving attitudes of \_\_\_\_\_, with \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ with one another in \_\_\_\_\_, endeavoring to \_\_\_\_\_ the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, including in your marriage. (4:1-3)
  - 10) God wants you to no longer walk like the Gentiles walk in the \_\_\_\_\_ but to walk in light of being a new creation in Christ so as to allow the Holy Spirit to replace sinful \_\_\_\_\_ with spiritual \_\_\_\_\_. (4:17-32)

### You can deaden or destroy your marriage ...

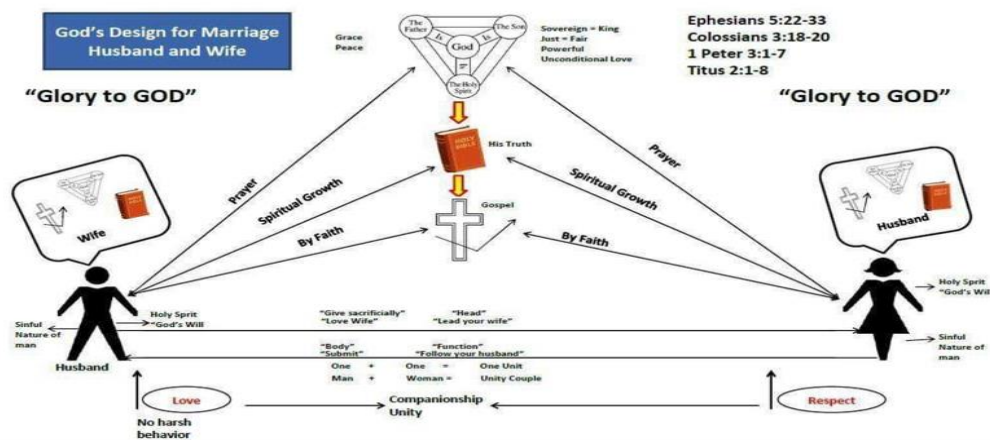
7. By \_\_\_\_\_ your spouse with your \_\_\_\_\_ instead of \_\_\_\_\_ them \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Eph. 4:29; Col. 4:6; Eph. 4:15)
8. By harboring \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ toward your spouse instead of being \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, and gracious \_\_\_\_\_. (Ephesians 4:30-32; Col. 3:12-13)
9. By rejecting your God-given marital roles for those of your own making such as:

a) By Christian wives, failing to exercise \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ toward your husband's leadership role as God's design and will for you. (Ephesians 5:22-24, 33)

- What is the mandate?
- What is the manner?
- Why and to what extent is this to occur?
- What occurs when this breaks down?
- Does this mean that wives do not need to agape love their husbands? (5 love languages)
- What does it mean for the husband to be the spiritual leader?

b) By Christian husbands failing to exercise unconditional \_\_\_\_\_ and personal \_\_\_\_\_ of your wife as God's design and will for you. (Ephesians 5:25-33)

- What does agape love involve?
- What does this instruction prevent when obeyed?
- Who is the ultimate example of this?
- How does this manifest itself?
- What must we remember about God's design of marriage, what you vowed when you married, and what word should not be entertained or uttered?
- What occurs when this breaks down with a Christian husband?



10. By the denial of \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Cor. 7:1-5) or the involvement in \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt.19)