



Sermon Questions: *Grace-Filled Identity*

Date: *July 18, 2021* | **Scripture:** *Ephesians 5:22-33*

1. What were your first thoughts when you read this text? Is it a teaching you find easy or hard, complicated or simple?
2. We heard that we must understand the verb 'submit' in the context of the book, and this passage in the light of the preceding verse, v21. Paul also illustrates submission by looking at Christ's example. How might this differ from common understandings of submission?
3. How would you summarize the word to wives, the word to husbands, and the word to the church?
4. Pick out the verbs in verses 25-31. What does Christ's love for us look like, according to this analogy?
5. How could this picture of Christ's love help a person longing to be married, a person struggling within a marriage, or a person bereaved of their spouse?

Inward Grace in Action

The questions below are a little more intimate and are meant to be discussed with a trusted friend or partner.

1. Confusion, abuse and our desire for autonomy can complicate our understanding of submission. Which of these is hardest for you? How could Christ and his bride, the church, help you as you walk through this?
2. When we think of God, we often consider an abstract—but God has made the father known in Christ. Which of the verbs of Christ's love for the church seems least familiar? And which most familiar?

WORSHIP THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Here are some other ways you can meet with God throughout the week:

Reflect on these Scriptures:

- Genesis 1:26-31
- Hosea 2:16-23
- John 4:1-26
- Revelation 19:6-9
- 1 Peter 1:3-9
- 2 John

Listen to the Ephesians worship playlist on Spotify.

Reach out if you need assistance during this time:

- Call our church office at 703.821.0800
- Request aid from our Deacons' Fund at deaconsfund@mcleanpres.org

You can also find additional resources on our website:

capitalpres.org