

## 1. Introduction

- a. Aretha Franklin and RESPECT → became the anthem for a generation
    - i. Problem is that it wasn't written by her, but Otis Redding for his wife
  - b. Men naturally crave respect and women naturally crave love
    - i. In a survey, 74% of men said if they had to choose, they would rather be alone and unloved than loved yet inadequate and disrespected
    - ii. Women crave love, for a man respect = love...literally
    - iii. Men want/need to be men, respected, looked up to, feel needed
  - c. Open up your eyes to the male heart & help you to be godly wives
2. *"[Submit] to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit to your own husbands as to the Lord. 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. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands."* (Ephesians 5:21-24)
- a. To be a godly wife, first and foremost, you need to submit to the Lord (explain)
  - b. Submit to husband might seem archaic and even scary, but realize that **mutual submission is the best decision**:
    - i. Husbands submit by dying for you (recap last week)
    - ii. Wives submit by following his lead and giving him respect, appreciation
    - iii. Respecting your husband = love for him → make him feel like THE man
  - c. **Respect your husband by appreciating his desire to lead**
    - i. Submission ≠ obedience without question like a child
      1. Husbands and wives walk together → helpmate, not slave
      2. Deference of final leadership for health and harmony of home
      3. This is not to say that women aren't or can't be leaders
        - a. Husband's job to lead the family
        - b. A good husband will know when to GO & when to WAIT
    - ii. At Revolve we hold to a complementarian vs. egalitarian
      1. Egalitarian view says that men and women are equal in every facet, including role and responsibilities
      2. Complementarian view says that:
        - a. Men and women are fully equal in Christ, made in the image of God, precious and dearly loved, but
        - b. They are unique and complementary in their role. That you fit together as helpmates, fill the voids, fill the gaps.
        - c. Mom can never fully be Dad and vice versa
    - iii. Men are supposed to be the final leader. Godly wives follow their man, knowing that he is seeking God (are you, men?)
      1. This is why it matters who you marry & men how you live
      2. This is difficult because part of the fall is a desire for control
        - a. No room for manipulation, going behind his back, nagging him, throwing him under the bus, capitalizing on failures

- iv. God will give your husband wisdom as he pursues God (the same way that he gives you wisdom). Sometimes, this may mean that God puts something on your husbands heart first before you
    - 1. e.g. Muslim ministry
  - v. Give him grace in his mistakes and let HS be his HS, not you
    - 1. If you don't agree on something, pray, don't nag. Let God change his mind, not you.
    - 2. Men: Doesn't mean ignore your wives. It means pursue God and allow the HS to unify you guys. Both need to be teachable
      - a. ex: Searching for seminaries
  - vi. Ladies: When you follow your husband, you are being obedient to God AND showing him the respect he craves
  - vii. **When you follow your husband, you make him feel like the man**
    - 1. He feels loved and will want to love
3. *Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 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. (Ephesians 5:25-27 ESV)*
- a. **Respect your husband by appreciating his desire to analyze and counsel**
  - b. Men and women clearly deal with problems in different ways
    - i. When men talk to other men about their problems, they want advice
    - ii. When women talk, they want you to listen and say you're sorry for them
  - c. Conflict happens when your husband tries to fix you rather than to listen
    - i. Men grow frustrated when their wives don't listen to their advice
    - ii. Women grow frustrated b/c they think advice means we aren't listening
  - d. Part of the husband's role is to help his wife to grow closer to God and become more like Jesus. Our desire to help and fix is given by God, but it must be submitted to God and the work of the Holy Spirit.
    - i. Men: we need to learn to listen first & ask if our wives want advice, make sure the advice we give is biblical and godly, and then submit it to the Holy Spirit whose job it is to do the actual work.
      - 1. Show grace when they don't listen (like Jesus does for us)
    - ii. Ladies: you need to tell us if you need an ear or advice
      - 1. When we mess up, offer dumb advice, we need grace not law
      - 2. Not all of our advice is bad. We like giving advice. We like fixing.
  - e. **When you listen to your husband's advice, you make him feel like the man**
    - Makes him feel loved and encourages him to love
4. *In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. (Ephesians 5:28-30 ESV)*
- a. **Respect your husband by appreciating his desire to provide and work**
    - i. "My husband provides but he doesn't show me love"

- ii. For a husband, this is often his default way of showing his love for you. As the husband needs to grow in love, wives often need to grow in respect
    - iii. You do this by appreciating and celebrating his desire to provide
  - b. Protecting & Providing: Do you celebrate his hard work or do you belittle it?
    - i. Does your husband work hard, but you still can't afford the things your friends all have? Ex: Dan and Eva talking about the cruise
      - 1. Don't beat him up, celebrate and be thankful for what you have
      - 2. You emasculate your man when he has a hard time providing for his family and you emphasize his inadequacy.
        - a. Complaining about what you can't afford
        - b. Instead, live at your means, celebrate his hard work
    - ii. Along the same lines, think about the stereotypical situation of the "Honey-Do List"
      - 1. You have to nag him, nag him and then he finally does something and screws it up...Should have hired a plumber
      - 2. To a lot of men, we would rather install a doorknob wrong than pay someone \$80 to do it for us. It makes us feel like men.
      - 3. There might be another reason for why your hubby doesn't do the list (He might be just lazy)
        - a. Maybe he doesn't feel appreciated, he feels undermined
        - b. "The last time he tried to fix something..."
    - iii. Some of you have enough money where you can hire people
      - 1. Wives, do you celebrate that? Do you appreciate his hard work so he doesn't have to do those things? Do you celebrate his victories and successes?
    - iv. If you celebrate your husband's hard work, he will want to work harder and it will make him feel like a man
  - c. **When you celebrate your husband's hard work, you make him feel like the man.** (Guess what? Then he will feel loved and be encouraged to love...)
5. *"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband. (Ephesians 5:31-33 ESV)*
  - a. **Respect your husband by appreciating his desire to walk in intimacy and friendship**
  - b. Two ways I see this playing out: Helping your husband achieve his dreams by walking side by side and letting him know that he is deeply desired by you
  - c. Men have dreams, goals, aspirations. Do you come alongside him in this?
  - d. When we were on the mission field, we witnessed a strange phenom.
    - i. Some wives who felt part of the mission
    - ii. Others who said, "Well, I submitted and here I am"
  - e. I don't want to drag my wife around, I want to be partners in everything that we do  
→ I want her to be my helpmate, walking side by side

- i. Gina is fully invested in Revolve and that makes me feel good
      - ii. She believes in me, she has ownership, she is proud of me
      - iii. And you know what? That makes me want to love her more
    - f. What is your husband's dream? Even if you think it is silly
      - i. Do you come alongside his aspirations and hopes?
      - ii. Do you help him to achieve/celebrate the small victories?
      - iii. Do you smash his dreams to pieces? "That's a dumb idea"
    - g. **When you walk alongside your husband in his dreams, you make him feel like the man.** (This will encourage him to love)
    - h. Similarly, **men need to know that you want to cleave with him** → yes, sex
      - i. Tell story from CreationFest
      - ii. Men want to feel like men. The same way women want to feel desired and loved, men want to feel desired and respected
        - 1. Difference between men and women in the bathroom
      - iii. Men want you to celebrate their masculinity
        - 1. We want to feel desired. We want to be James Bond. The same way you still want to feel beautiful, men want to still feel manly.
      - iv. **When you desire your man, you make him feel like a man.**
6. Conclusion: How do I pull this all together?
  - a. One more truth: **Respect isn't earned, it's given unconditionally.**
  - b. The same way men are called to love their wives unconditionally, women are called to respect their husbands, unconditionally (b/c it's love for him)
    - i. Respect is given by virtue of headship, not because he deserves it
  - c. When these two things function, they create a healthy cycle
    - i. When either is severed they don't
    - ii. If you have a spouse who doesn't function healthily, what do you do?
      - 1. Win him/her with your respect, love, grace, kindness → pray
  - d. So **don't embrace the stereotype** ("I'm always right," "Neck turns the head")
    - i. Don't be the ball and chain, be the encourager
    - ii. Don't throw him under the bus in front of other people just to put him in his place, celebrate him publicly and be amazed at the results
    - iii. Don't talk about him with your friends and bash him when he isn't around, respect him at all times
    - iv. Don't nag him about the things he isn't doing, celebrate the things he is
  - e. Do these things and your husband will feel like the biggest man on the face of the planet. He will love you more, serve you more and be more of the man God wants him to be, but don't do it for those reasons → do it b/c it's what a godly woman does!
  - f. **Ladies, your job is to make your husband feel like THE man.** When you show him unconditional respect, you do that very thing, you love him as God desires you to love him