



## *Helping your Helpmeet*

**Understand what God has given each of us to do and do it!**

*Gen 2:20* So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him. **21** And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. **22** Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. **23** And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man." **24** Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.



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### **Leave Father and Mother**

- ▼ No other human relationship takes precedent over your wife.
- ▼ Leave means leave

### **Be Joined to your Wife**

- ▼ Joining is more than just living together
- ▼ to join is to bring two things together so well so there appears to be no seam.

### **Become one flesh**

- ▼ This is the natural result of doing the above
- ▼ God is One



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**There is only one leader when two are working**

*Eph 5:22* Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. **23** For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. **24** Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. **25** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, **28** So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself... **30** For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. **31** "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."... **33** Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.



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## The Greatest Problem For Families

### *Bitterness*

- ▼ **Definition : When a character flaw in another adversely affects my ability to live righteously.**
- ▼ **It destroys relationships and causes shameful actions.**
- ▼ **It springs up like a root -Hebrews 12:14,15**

*14 Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: 15 looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;*



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## *Reasons for bitterness*

- ▼ **Less dependable people**
- ▼ **Getting older**
- ▼ **Job insecurity**
- ▼ **Adolescence**
- ▼ **Parent-child relationships**
- ▼ **Church member relationships**



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### *Opportunities for bitterness in the life of Christ*

- ▼ **Kindness repaid by betrayal John 12:1-8; 13:21-30**

### *Opportunities for bitterness in the life of the apostle Paul*

- ▼ **Paul's problems II Corinthians 11:23-28**

### *How they each faced death*

- ▼ **Jesus on the cross Luke 23:28-46**

### *Paul in prison*

- ▼ **His last words II Timothy 4:6-22**



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### *Their solution, forgiveness*

- ▼ **Forgive as God forgave you Ephesians 4:30-5:2**
- ▼ **Christ is the example SEE-Him, SAY-I can be like Him, BELIEVE- Act like Him**
- ▼ **Philippians 4:13**

*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

### *Christ's example*

- ▼ **I Peter 2:19-25**