

MARRIAGE:

What WOMEN want

Barb Roose Feb 13/14

EPHESIANS 5:25, 28-29 (New Living Translation)

²⁵ **For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church.**

He gave up his life for her...²⁸ In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself.²⁹ No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church.

Agapao – It is not just FEELING good, but it is DOING good for.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7 (New Living Translation)

⁴ Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud⁵ or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged.

⁶ It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out.⁷ Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

What wives need to hear from their husbands:

1. "I LOVE You" (EPHESIANS 5:25)
2. "Honey, Till Death Do Us part" (MATTHEW 19:6)
3. "TELL me about your day"/"Let me tell you about mine" (GALATIANS 6:1)
4. "I'm SORRY"/"It's okay" (JAMES 1:18; 1 PETER 4:8; COLOSSIANS 3:12-13; ROMANS 14:19; EPHESIANS 4:26)
5. "Will you go out on a DATE with me?" (SONG OF SOLOMON 4:9)
6. "PRAY with me" (JAMES 5:16)

RECOMMENDED READING: (also available on audiobook)

The Five Love Languages, *The Marriage You've Always Wanted* and *Sacred Marriage* all three by Gary Chapman; *Love and Respect* by Emerson Eggerich.

All of these books are available or can be ordered through the CedarCreek Bookstore.

Living **it** out (Discuss these questions in your LifeGroup, and/or with your family and friends.) DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

ICEBREAKER:

Married persons: What is your favorite thing about your spouse?
Single persons: If this question applies, what type of person would you like to marry one day?

1. List as many differences as you can between men and women.
 - a. How do those differences accentuate the marriage relationship?
 - b. How do those differences create difficulty in the marriage relationship?
2. Describe what you believe that wives need from the marriage relationship. Has your definition changed or stayed the same since this weekend's message? What has changed?
3. How does your definition of love differ from God's definition of love (agapao)?
4. Ask someone to read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. List the attributes of love that you are doing well with and the attributes where you need to improve.
5. What's your love language? Your spouse's love language? If he or she is present, ask your spouse what you can do in order to show him or her love in that particular love language.
6. Of all of the statements that Barb listed for husbands to say to their wives, which one did you connect with the most? Why?

FEATURED SONGS:

Battlefield, by Jordin Sparks **Love Is Not A Fight**, by Warren Barfield
Perrysburg - Kyle Gray, Lauren Miller; Toledo - Nate Manuel, Diana Patton; Whitehouse - Cory Payne, Lindsey Frantz

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

(Memorize this verse for the month of February.)

MATTHEW 16:24
(New Living Translation)

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me."