

# February 16–22

Walk Worthy In My Family & Marriage | Love and Respect

**Icebreaker:** What is the difference between love and respect? Which is most important to you and why?

*In this session, we will consider how critical love and respect are in the marriage relationship.*

## Read Ephesians 5:28–33

- Why are husbands to love their wives as their own bodies?
- What is the significance of the wife being an extension of her husband?
- What is the relationship between husband and wife? Why is it the closest among human relationships, even more so than a parent and child?
- How does the relationship and unity between a husband and wife illustrate Christ's relationship to the church?
- What is the significance of the relationship between Christ and the church being even more foundational than marriage?
- How should the picture of marriage speak into how love is expressed within the church?

## Application

- Verse 33 summarizes this section devoted to husbands and wives.
  - Why are love and respect so important to a healthy marriage?
  - What happens if either is missing?
- What would it look like to invest in another person like you invest in yourself?  
*Consider the things to which you devote a lot of time, energy, and passion (sports, hobbies, collections, business, interests).*
- The challenge from Pastor Lee to the men: Be the leader, the provider, and the protector that God called you to be. Love your wife like you love your own body.
  - Men: What is your response to this challenge? How does it make you feel?
  - Women: How would you respond if your husband took up this challenge?
- Take-aways:
  - Married Men: What practical step do you want to take to love your wife this week?
  - Married Women: What practical step can you take this week to show respect to your husband?
  - Unmarried Men and Women: What has stood out to you in these lessons that you want to be sure to implement in a future marriage?