

# February 9–15

## Walk Worthy In My Family & Marriage | Sacrificial Love

**Icebreaker:** Has there ever been a time in which someone sacrificed something for your benefit? What was the loss on their part, and what was gained on your part? How did that make you feel?

*In this session, we will consider that Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice for his church so that the church would demonstrate his holiness.*

### Read Ephesians 5:25–27

- In verse 25, husbands are called to love their wives as Christ loved the church.
  - In Greco-Roman society, wives had obligations to their husbands but not husbands to wives. How is this passage a revolutionary idea? How is it revolutionary even today and around the world?
  - To what extent did Christ love the church? (See also Ephesians 5:2, John 10:11–18)
  - What does this mean for husbands?
- What does it mean for Jesus to sanctify the church? (See also Hebrews 10:14)
  - Why is the Word necessary in this process? (See also Titus 3:5, John 15:3)
- What is Christ's ultimate purpose in sanctifying the church?
  - Note that though human brides prepare themselves for their husbands, Christ prepares His own bride for Himself. Why is this significant?
  - How is the preparation and presentation of the church different from how an earthly bride is presented to her husband?
  - Why is purity and holiness important in the church?
  - What happens when the church is not demonstrating holiness? (See also 2 Corinthians 11:2–4)

### Application

- Wives are called to submit to their husbands. Husbands are called to love their wives.
  - Why are both difficult? Why are both necessary?
  - What happens when either is missing?
- Why is sacrificing ourselves for the sake of another so hard?
  - Why can sacrifice within the marriage relationship be particularly difficult?
- What does unconditional sacrifice look like in our lives—sacrificing and not expecting to receive something in return?
- How does what God has done for you allow you to sacrifice this way?

*Consider everything we have learned so far in Ephesians—God adopting us and forgiving us, Jesus powerfully working in our lives, access to power through the Spirit.*