#### (GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS REPORT

"A Passion For Souls" P.O. Box 667 Taylorsville, NC 28681 Dr. Stan A. Frye, President Phone: 828-632-2344



E-mail Address: gimi@charter.net

#### A Bi-monthly Publication Of Gateway International Missions, Inc.

#### Volume 25



Jesus giving The Great Commission to His Disciples

Dear Beloved GIMI Team Member,

Blessed Summer greetings in the precious name of Jesus! I am writing during this warm time of year to hopefully encourage you, your family, and especially your church family, to get really serious about asking Jesus to give you a genuine compassion and love for lost sinners. When God gives you this compassion and burden for lost souls, I would like to request you not only pray for the lost to get saved, but to also get personally involved in helping to go after these lost souls. Be an encourager to those who go after the lost, and give regularly and sacrificially. Become a fervent prayer warrior for every lost person in the world, especially for every lost person you know. Truly, Jesus is coming soon. There are over 2 billion people in the world who have never heard the simple plan of church, and to a faithful mission's ministry that makes reprobates." (II Corinthians 13:5).

### July/ August 2025

Issue 4

evangelism and soul-winning their main ministry. Please don't misunderstand me. I know and believe discipleship as mentioned in the Great Commission, (Matthew 28:16-20), is very important to every person who gets genuinely saved. No one can genuinely be saved and follow Jesus unless they know Jesus radiantly lives in their hearts and lives. Jesus taught in Matthew 16:24-27, 'Then said Jesus unto His disciples, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up the cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of His Father with his angels; and then shall He reward every man according to his works."

Beloved GIMI team member, what are you willing to give up in order to win other lost people to Christ? This old pastor has believed the best way to judge another believer's genuine salvation is to take a good look at what they value highly in their life. Where do you spend most of your time or money? As you answer these questions, you should be able to discern whether or not you are a dedicated believer, or if the stuff of this world is more important. How do you spend your time? If you spend more time reading your phone than reading the Bible, maybe you should do like Paul instructed the Corinthian church. He told them to examine themselves to be sure they were really saved before they participated in the Lord's Supper. Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the salvation. The greatest thing every born-again believer faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own can do is pray fervently for the lost, give sacrificially to the selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be



#### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO OUR GREAT AMERICAN NATION!

We are celebrating the 249<sup>th</sup> birthday of our great American nation on July 4, 2025. It was on July 4, 1776, our forefathers broke completely away from England and founded the United States of America. On behalf of my dear wife and our beloved family, I want to wish you and your family a special time of celebration and thanksgiving for this great country God has given us. This is surely the greatest nation on earth, second only to the nation of Israel, God's chosen nation. At this time in the history of America, this country is in trouble in many ways, but especially,

spiritually. The best thing we could pray for now is for genuine heaven-sent revival to sweep our land, homes, churches, communities and particularly our nation's capital, Washington D.C. I beg you dear members to join JoAnne and I in a tremendous quest for a genuine Holy Ghost revival in these final days before the return of Christ. For hundreds of years, God has been serious about sending a real Holy Spirit movement to clean the wickedness out of His church. He uses clean people to put forth the greatest effort of soul-winning and evangelism to ever come to any people, regardless of who they may be. America is in such a vile and wicked condition. Only a sincere movement of God with His mighty power can save our nation. Please get serious about praying for revival, and for allowing God to use you and your family to hopefully save our nation from imminent death. I beg you to get totally and completely sold out to involvement in taking the Gospel to the remainder of the lost and dying world. We must remember there is only one way to get saved and go to Heaven; through repentance and an honest confession that Christ is indeed the only way to Heaven. Jesus saith unto him, "I am the way, the truth and the life; no man cometh to the Father, but by me." (John 14:6).





**Dr. Lawrence and Janet Robinett** 

#### I WANT TO RECOMMEND A GREAT NEW BOOK!

I dearly love to read books. I have probably averaged reading over 100 books every year, for years and years now. I currently have about 20 books waiting that I haven't yet read completely. Reading is my favorite thing! Recently, I read one of the greatest books I have ever read. *The End of the Earth*, was written by Brother Lawrence Robinett, a dear friend of mine. Brother Lawrence lives in Ohio and attends the church I once pastored in the nineties. This new book was written about the soon-coming end time events, starting with the Rapture of the Church, and ends with the Millenium and the Great White Throne Judgement. I have read scores of books on the end times, but none compare to this book. I recommend this new book so God can answer most of your unanswered questions concerning the end times. This book is the easiest book I have ever read on the end of the age, and is easy to understand. I believe every born-again believer should read this book and learn what is coming when Jesus begins the end of the age. The book is available through Amazon. The hardback version is around twenty dollars and the paperback is around fifteen dollars. I believe this book will change your life!

#### My Back Surgery Has Been Completed

By the time you dear friends and GIMI team members read this newsletter, I will no doubt have had my serious back surgery performed in Hickory, NC. I would ask you to please continue to pray for rapid recovery from this surgery. I have endured 25 previous surgeries through the years. I dearly hate surgery, however, due to the pain I have been suffering, I really didn't have any choice.

My wife and I have been praying God would heal my back problems and give me the privilege of regaining strength in order to return to completing the wonderful ministry God has given me. Please pray every day for needed healing. When God heals this old preacher's back, I want to get back to working in the office, writing several new books, and hold all our volunteers accountable for what they are doing for Jesus and GIMI.

I want to share the Gospel in churches and on the radio, visit prisons, schools, orphanages and refugee camps. I want to provide the Gospel to thousands of lost people and provide the only hope they have to be able to go to Heaven one day. Please pray, pray, pray!



Pastor Stan and JoAnne with the Gallamores and Spencers at our recent Banquet.

#### **Two More Serious Prayer Requests**



Pastor Mike McKinney at our recent banquet.

In addition to prayer requests for recovery from my back surgery, please pray for my son-in-law, Pastor Mike McKinney! Brother Mike is married to my daughter Rebecca. He and she have been helping us with this great ministry for many years. Brother Mike has served as one of our faithful GIMI Board Members since the founding

of this great work for Jesus. We sincerely love Pastor Mike and Rebecca, and truthfully, I don't know that my wife and I would have ever been able to do this enormous work, were it not for them. Recently, Pastor Mike has had a problem with his heart; A-Fib. He has been in the hospital, had many tests, and the doctors still can't determine what his deteriorating problem is. Please pray fervently for Mike, that God will completely heal him of his worsening problem. We truly need Pastor Mike enormously every day of the week. Please also pray for one of our great African preachers in Western Liberia. Pastor Kamanda Johnson's mother recently died unexpectedly. She was indeed a great mother, and got saved shortly before she died. We know she is in Heaven, with no more sickness or pain. Please pray for Pastor Kamanda's entire family while they go through this difficult time. Pray for their comfort, encouragement, and most of all, that some of the lost family members would get saved. Brother Kamanda, our GIMI team Members are praying for you and your entire family. We truly love you, and seriously appreciate the great and wonderful work you do for Jesus, and for GIMI!



Pastor Kamanda's Mother's funeral.

#### We Have Revived Our Radio Ministry by Replaying Previous Broadcast at Three Stations in Uganda!

In our last newsletter, I mentioned I had to discontinue radio broadcasts due to new health problems. I told you that three stations in Uganda were replaying the old broadcasts. I am excited to tell you we are continuing this revived ministry while praying God will heal my body and restore strength so I can resume the entire radio ministry. God really continues to bless this radio ministry. Presently; we are averaging nearly 2000 people getting saved each month. We are truly praising God for this great harvest of souls. We really need to revive this ministry soon. For about two years, we had been broadcasting on about 40 stations in Africa and some in the US. When we started the radio ministry several years back, we started with over 90 stations, but the cost was just too much! After 18 months, I came down with throat problems that forced me to stop. I had my vocal cords replaced and after recovery, began to broadcast again. Within a few months, I had more throat problems and had to stop again. I have not done any new broadcasts for several months, however, in Uganda, on three stations, they have been replaying old broadcasts. Hundreds of people are still getting saved. We praise the Lord for what He is doing. I beg you dear Team Member, first to fervently pray God gives me strength, and secondly for financial help to cover the cost of airtime. Airtime is very expensive, but with hundreds of people being saved, it is surely worth the cost. My dear friends, we're are all going to leave this earthly wealth very soon. We must try to win people for Jesus, and lay up treasure in Heaven where moth and rust cannot corrupt. (Matthew 6:19). Beloved GIMI friends, will you please help by sending the best gift you can at this time? If you will, I know God will bless you enormously. (Luke 6:38, Hebrews 6:10).

In many of the large prisons in Africa, there are no radios for the prisoners to hear the Gospel. Could you please send some funds to help us purchase large radios which cost about \$300.00 each? If you could help, you will be helping to share the Gospel to thousands of prisoners. I hope and pray you as individuals, families, businesses, and churches, will give sacrificially to help us share the Gospel with multitudes of prisoners, orphans, schools, and refugee camps. Please send your gifts in the enclosed envelope and designate the gift accordingly.

#### GOD CONTINUES TO GIVE GIMI THE GREATEST HARVEST OF SOULS IMAGINED!



Beloved brothers and sisters, every time I write articles for our newsletter, I truly get broken and sometimes shed tears due to what God has done through this small ministry over the past 25 years. Without a doubt, God has His hand upon the way we do missions, how we gather the harvest, and so many other areas where we witness Him move majestically. He's moving in our 12 countries in Africa, in Ukraine, through the radio ministry in Africa and the U.S. and especially in the prisons and schools.

Sometimes our readers don't believe the huge results we tell are happening every month. We do our best to follow up on all the people who have asked Jesus to come into their hearts. In the parable of the sower, there were 4 kinds of soil, but only one was genuine. Based upon this, we probably are seeing some who make professions that are not genuine. Probably only one-fourth of church members are genuinely saved. Just like in the Bible, we continue to preach the Gospel of the Lord Jesus. All of the work in the church is done by 25% of the people. Believe it or not, only 7% of professing Christians are committed to giving themselves and their God-given offerings back to Jesus.

God gave me a slogan a few years back: **"YOU DON'T HAVE REAL SALVATION IF YOU DON'T FEEL OBLIGATED TO TAKE IT TO THE REST OF THE WORLD TO SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION TO JESUS"** Beloved GIMI team member, we must keep going on to present the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to as many people as possible, even if some of the decisions are not real. As one great leader in America used to say, "it is only our responsibility to present the Gospel in the power of the Holy Spirit, and leave the results to God." We must move on with the proclamation of the Gospel to win as many as possible before Jesus comes again. During the past 25 years, JoAnne and I have shared the Gospel with over 38 million people, with just over 8 million making first time professions. I know you will rejoice with us knowing from January to April 2025, we have been able to share the gospel with over 423,836 people. From this number, 89,752 have made a firsttime profession of faith. Please join us in saying, "Praise God, Hallelujah to our Lord Jesus Christ and Amen!"

On a weekly basis, through our wonderful national preachers and teachers in the field, we are seeing hundreds of new converts "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. To Him, be the glory, both now and forever, Amen!" (II Peter 3:18). Because our primary ministry is in the prisons of Africa, we are seeing scores of inmates released from prison after their lives have been gloriously changed by the power of Christ. They become new creatures in Christ, God gives forgiveness, and many times prison officials see such a difference, they send them home to their families. Praise the Lord!

As we thank God for this spiritual harvest during the Summer time of the year, I want to share; (II Corinthians 9:6-15) But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:(As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;)Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God. For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God;

Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men; And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you. Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift. This is a long passage of Scripture, but it is filled with Biblical truth and principles. Some of those principles we must learn are:

- 1. To give bountifully, for if we don't, our harvest will be sparse. v. 6
- To give bountifully with a Godly purpose in mind.
  v. 7a
- 3. To give cheerfully, because God loves a cheerful giver. v. 7b
- 4. To give to others, because God will give more grace when grace has been shown to others.v. 8a
- To completely depend upon the graciousness of God in His meeting our every need, so that in turn, we may do good work in ministering to others. v. 8b
- 6. To give to the poor, because, this righteous deed will never be forgotten by our Lord. v.9
- 7. To trust God to provide our food, and we demonstrate this trust when we sow good seed by investing in others who are in need. v. 10
- 8. When we give bountifully by investing in those who are poor and suffering, then others will offer thanksgiving to God because of what we have done in His name. v. 11
- When we give offerings to minister to those in need, like those in the Jerusalem church for which the Corinthians were receiving an offering. Then, those to whom we have given will offer much thanksgiving to God for our ministry to them. v. 12
- 10. When we give offerings to help those in need, we are displaying we are genuine believers who truly share liberally because of our relationship with Christ. v.13
- 11. When we minister to the suffering, they are prone to offer fervent prayers on our behalf.v. 14a
- When we minister to the suffering, the recipients of our ministry will prayerfully long for the type of graciousness we have demonstrated to them.
   v. 14b
- 13. The greatest way to offer true thanksgiving is to demonstrate help to alleviate the suffering of those who are hurting, who in turn will thank God for the unspeakable gift of the Gospel message. v. 15.

The summary is when we as God's people learn the joy of giving cheerfully to those in need of the Gospel or are in tremendous poverty, then we have demonstrated the true Gospel message. Those who give cheerfully offer thanksgiving for the privilege to give, and those who receive from our kind generosity will offer praise and thanksgiving to God for touching our hearts and leading us to give! There is thanksgiving all around!

#### A Promise Fulfilled!

In our May/ June newsletter, I presented an article from the Master Builder's Home Improvement Seminar. I gave you this article for Mother's Day and promised I would give an article for Father's Day soon. I have included this article for you husbands and fathers. I hope this article, "Is There A Man in the House, blesses your family even if it is past Father's Day. I'm trying to fulfill and keep my promises.

#### IS THERE A MAN IN THE HOUSE? SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 5:21-6:4

#### Introduction:

Where have all the men gone? When we look around us today, it is very obvious our society is in trouble because real men are missing from our homes and families. We're told much of the juvenile delinquency and violence prevalent today is the indirect, and sometimes even the direct result of no fathers in many of our family units. Many husbands and dads have shirked their responsibilities and fled the home scene without really understanding the irreparable damage they are doing. There are many husbands and dads that don't actually leave the home, but fail to be the real man needed in the household. This session is a study from the Book of Ephesians about becoming that **Real Man** every home needs.

My wife, JoAnne, and I have worked in Africa for the past 40 years, most of the time working in prisons. I think I have the credentials to make some observations about the African men. I believe because I have pastored churches in America for the past 59 years, I have the credentials to make some observations about African American men as well. I have worked with African men very closely. There is one thing I observe about African men; they don't seem to be as insecure, and always seeking to convince others they are truly strong and admirable. I have seen many men in Africa who believe they need to go on showing off their tribal power and authority. These men in Africa don't seem to live as hypocrites as much as I see it in here America. Most of the Dads and husbands I have observed in Africa, don't seem to be pretentious in their attempt to present themselves as masculine or man-like. Yet, here in America while being an active pastor for so long, I have in almost every one of the eleven churches I have pastored, been forced to observe so many black men who seem to feel they are really not manly, but, if you give them a little leave way to play sports, they will excel, and then be a little melodramatic when they score a touchdown, or knock a homerun. Presently, there is a tragedy here in America that demands our utmost attention: statisticians tell us 73% of African America children are born out of wedlock. This number is absolutely staggering. "Is it any wonder manhood has gone from many America homes, simply because the fathers of so many children have not accepted the responsibility for the birth and development of their children. They are ready to help conceive the new babies, simply from the desires of the flesh. When a father is needed in the home, they have disappeared, with many of them not accepting much or any of the responsibility for bringing the children into the world, and then to be there to show the masculine leadership that is so importantly needed! Let's look at missing husbands and fathers and see if we can find the real men in the homes. "Is there a real man in your house? I sincerely hope and pray our study might be very helpful in bringing you to the place of real manhood in your house! Let's get started with this intense study!

#### I. A REAL MAN WILL BE A MAN OF LEADERSHIP. v. 23

It is very important we know in order to discern the role of the husband, we must look at the way God made the first husband (Adam) and the way He made Adam's helpmeet, Eve. We must see God has always intended the husband or father in a home should be the primary leader in the home. The role of the wife is very important, and the role of the children is also very important. We must never forget if we try to change the roles, or authoritative positions in the home, things will be out of God's planned order, and when this happens, we will never have peace and harmony in the family unit. We can never have harmonious homes, unless we have the right leadership as the head of the house. Let's take a look at the kind of leadership a husband should provide his family in the home unity.

#### A. He will provide wise leadership. v. 23a

In the very first phrase of verse 23, we discover Paul told the Ephesian Church the husband is the head of the wife. The word head here directs our attention to the fact if the husband is the head of the wife, then, this (head) is to make the final decisions with wise leadership for the wife, and for the rest of the family members. Then too, we need to surely discover if a husband is to provide wise leadership for the wife and other family members, then there is an inference here that implies any wise father must be saved, and live every day getting wisdom from God to help him provide proper and wise leadership daily for the entire family. There is another implication here; in order for a father to provide wise leadership, he must have a time for daily study of the Bible. I see this, because it is totally impossible to get wisdom for daily life and leadership without a constant study of God's Word. Beloved Christian daddy, how much time are you giving daily to the precious study of God's Holy Word? If you are going to be able to provide Divine Wisdom to lead your home, and to lead the family in making wise decisions daily, then, you can only get this Divine wisdom from the study of God's precious Word!

#### B. He will provide watchful leadership. v. 23b

In order for us to get the full meaning of the husband being the head of the wife in the home, we must look at the implication of the phrase.... (Even as Christ is the head of the church). If the church belongs to Jesus, then, we can't help but know He is constantly watching over His flock of sheep every day and night. The husband is the member of the family, which has been given the responsibility for watching over his flock. This thought means the husband will do everything possible to prepare and train himself in order to further train his family members, and to constantly watch over his family, as a shepherd watches over his sheep. The father will provide protection and watchfulness for his wife and children.

Dr. John MacArthur writes "The wife's supreme motive for submitting to her husband is the fact he is her functional head in the family, as Christ also is the head of the church (I Cor. 11:3; Col. 1:18; and Ephes. 1:22-23). The head gives direction (Divine Wisdom) and the body responds. A physical body that does not respond to the direction of the head is crippled, paralyzed, or spastic. Likewise, a wife who does not properly respond to the direction of her husband manifests a serious spiritual dysfunction. On the other hand, a wife who willingly and lovingly responds to her husband's leadership as to the Lord is an honor to her Lord, her husband, her family, her church, and herself. She is also a beautiful testimony to the Lord before the view of the world around her."<sup>1</sup>

#### C. He will provide wholesome leadership. v. 23c

Paul tells the Ephesians that Jesus is not only the Head of the Church, but He was, and still is the Savior of the body. The word Savior tells us that just as Jesus was, and still is the Savior of those in the body of Christ, this salvation is truly a wholesome leadership, because Jesus paid the ultimate price to die on the cross for our sins; the greatest act any person could ever carry out to provide wholesome or ultimate perfection. If a husband or father is saved, he will have the same perfect and wholesome presence of Jesus in His heart and life. This presence of the indwelling Christ will provide the proper leadership, wisdom, courage, righteousness, and personal testimony and will bear fruit for a very long time, even after he has gone on to heaven!

#### D. He will provide witnessing leadership. v. 24

In verse 24, we discover if a husband has been carrying out the leadership role for his wife and family the way he should be, there should be a tremendously strong and willing submission by the wife to the position, the power (authority), and the practice of a faithful exemplary husband for a positive witness for the children in the home, as well as in the community where the family lives. Husbands, are you providing the kind of leadership that is a constant daily witness or testimony to your family and community? I hope you might be able to say yes to my question! If you can't say yes, could I ask you to take a look at the kind of leadership you are giving your family and community? Then, ask God's forgiveness for not being able to say yes to the question, and make a brand-new commitment or rededication of your life to Jesus, and to a future life of righteous testimony as a husband or father!

In his commentary, John MacArthur states "The supreme and ultimate model of submission is Jesus Christ Himself, who performed the supreme action of submission by giving His own sinless life to save a sinful world. Christ is the Savior of the body, His church, for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The MacArthur New Testament Commentary, Ephesians, By: Dr. John MacArthur, Moody Publishers, page 288.

whom He died on the cross. He is the perfect Provider, Protector, and of His church, which is His body.

Jesus Christ is the Divine role model for husbands, who should provide for, protect, preserve, love, and lead their wives and families as Christ cares for His church. Wives are no more to be co-providers, coprotectors, or co-leaders with their husbands than the church is to have joint roles with Jesus Christ. Just as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.

To follow God's plan for the family is not only pleasing to Him, but it is the only way to godlier, happier, and more secure homes. His plan is neither for the exaltation of man and suppression of woman, nor the exaltation of woman and suppression of man, but for the perfection and fulfillment of both man and woman as He has ordained them to be. Such perfection and fulfillment are made possible by the filling of the Holy Spirit."<sup>2</sup>

#### II. A REAL MAN WILL BE A MAN OF LOVE. vs. 25, 28-33

Let us take a thorough look at what Paul said to the Ephesians about how a truly submissive wife should be loved by a very loving husband. When Paul made the comparison between the headship of Jesus Christ over the church, and the husband being the head of the wife and additional family members, there was a great analogy presented about how Jesus paid the ultimate price to redeem lost sinners by dying on the cross, and then, rising from the dead on the third day, and the significance of the husband following the example, of Jesus, by giving up everything in order to forgive mankind's sin. In other words, the perfect love demonstrated by Jesus should be a pattern for every husband to follow when he loves his wife and family. He should love his wife and children unconditionally. Let's look at the kind of love every saved believing husband should have for his wife and entire family. This kind of love cannot not be possible unless Jesus Christ indwells the believing husband. What kind of love should a husband's love for his wife and family be?

#### A. He will manifest a superior love. v. 25a

If a husband loves his wife the way he should, then, his love should be superior or supreme for her above anything else he might ever love or cherish. This superior love is only possibly when a husband is saved with Christ living within him. It is impossible for any man to love this wife or family in a superior or supreme way, unless he appropriates this love of Jesus by faith, and then, dispenses this love to each of his family members, starting with his wife.

#### B. He will manifest a sacrificial love. v. 25b

The next phrase we find in verse 25, is the following: "...even as Christ loved the church, and gave himself for it." This wonderful verse tells us that Christ's love for His upcoming future church caused Him to give Himself on the cross, die there to pay our sin death, and this love was also demonstrated for the Bride (the church), by being put to death for all humanity. Praise God, He never remained dead. Jesus paid the greatest sacrifice that could have ever possibly been made by giving Himself as a propitiation for our sins. The word propitiation I am using here, actually means as a substitution for something. In other words, Jesus paid the ultimate sacrifice, simply because He loved His Bride so much. If a husband genuinely loves his wife, he will do everything he possibly can to show his love for her by the daily sacrifices that will always be needed to be made to show his love for his wife, the apple of his eye. Husband's, "Do you love your wife enough to sacrifice anything you have in this world in order to demonstrate your love for this precious gift God has given to you"? If you do, your love relationship is going to get better and better, and second only to Christ, your love for your wife will always be superior to any other love in the universe!

#### C. He will manifest a self-love. v. 28

We are going to skip verses 26-27 for the moment, in order to concentrate on the unusual love of self, which Paul mentions in verse 28. "So, ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself." To properly understand what Paul is telling the Ephesians, we need to return in our thinking to the Book of Genesis, when God made Eve from the rib of Adam. It was here that Adam was not complete, until God made Eve, his helpmeet. Because of the way God made the woman, when Adam sincerely loved Eve, he in reality loved himself, because she was his completion. When a husband loves his wife properly, he will always love her in superiority because she in actuality completed the formation of mankind, made into one part from the two individuals. My beloved husbands and fathers, when you look over at the woman lying on the pillow next to yours, are you loving

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ibid, pages 288-289.

her as much as you love yourself? If you don't, then, you have not learned to love like Jesus loves His bride, the church!

Please notice the practical application Dr. Phillips has given to us. "The 'self-motive' is here. Most welleducated people love themselves. Love of self, of course, can be a very bad thing, especially when it expresses itself in selfishness. There is, however, a normal and wholesome love on one's self that, though it must be kept in its proper place, is not sinful. The believer's motivation goes far beyond mere selfishness; it is based on the essence of what God planned marriage to be. In marriage two persons become one person. After God married Adam and Eve, He 'called their name Adam' (Gen. 5:2, italics added). They were two people with one name. This precedent is followed today when a bride gives up her family name and takes her husband's family name. In a sense, she loses her identity in his.

A man is to love his wife in the tender; caring way he loves his own body. A man instinctively provides for the comfort of his body. Using plain common sense, he protects his body from harm, heeds its signals, and desires its well-being.

Life is too uncomfortable when we ignore bodily demands, so we usually waste little time responding to them. For better or for worse, we are wedded to our bodies. They can make life blissful or tormenting. We cannot ignore our bodies, but self-indulgence can be as harmful as neglect. In between too stoic harshness and epicurean self-indulgence is the happy medium where most of us live. The sane and sensible thing to do is to nourish our bodies and cherish them.

Just as a man must take care of his body, a husband must see to his wife's comfort. He must protect her from harm, desire her well-being, and pay close attention to the signals she sends. She can, after all, make his life blissful or tormenting. He needs to help her develop her potential, nourish her, and cherish her. These are the sensible things to do, if he wants to live in peace and comfort. Paul, however, did not end his injunction to husbands on the level of self-motivation."<sup>3</sup>

#### D. He will manifest a supporting love. vs. 29-30

As we now move into verses 29-30, we need to see Paul's instructions for the Ephesians are so relevant for marriage, in all generations, especially, in the times we are presently living in. In verse 28, Paul tells the Ephesians men ought to love their wives, as they love their own bodies. Paul tells the Ephesians the husbands should love their wives, as mentioned earlier, as Christ loves the church. The kind of love Paul is talking about here is a strong supporting love. I get this thought from what is stated in verse 29, when it is stated, .... For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but (he nourisheth and cherisheth it) even as the Lord the church:' There are two words here I want to draw your attention to. These words are 'nourisheth and cherisheth.' These words are saying if a husband loves his wife the way Christ loves the church, this husband will feed is wife properly and treasure her enormously. This actually means because the husband places much value on his wife, he will do whatever he has to do to support and strengthen her every day they both live!

"The Lord views the church as His bride; it is His body. He loves it, nourishes it, and cherishes it. It is precious to Him. Nothing on earth or in Heaven compares with it. He died to redeem it. He watches over it. His Holy Spirit is here to guide it and gladden it. At the Father's right hand, Christ is the importunate on the church's behalf. He anticipates with delight the coming day when it will reign with Him over God's vast empires in space. As far as the Lord is concerned, nothing is too good for His beloved. The church is the love of His life, the center of His thoughts, and the object of His purposes.

A man should view his wife in the same way. He should not use his wife's faults and weaknesses as reasons for neglecting her or for failing to give her the love and attention he vowed to her. Does not the Lord see many imperfections in His church? Of course He does; but, with love, patience, kindness and forbearance, He ministers to His church. He knows the day will come when the church will be perfect, glorious, and all He meant it to be.

Love covers a multitude of sins **(I Peter 4:8).** The kind of love described in I Corinthians 13 is divine. Such love is a fruit of the Spirit and is possible only through a filling of the Holy Spirit. Every husband should take a weekly tour of that chapter and apply each of its clauses to himself and his attitude toward his wife."<sup>4</sup>

"In Christian marriage, the model never to be forgotten is the Lord Jesus. A believer is a member of His body. No more intimate relationship could be imagined than the organic relationship that exists between one

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Exploring Ephesians and Philippians, By: Dr. John Phillips, Kregel, page 166.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ibid, page 167.

member of a physical body and another member. Each member of a body shares the same life, is controlled by the same spirit, is washed by the same blood, and ruled by the same brain. The idea of a leg, an arm, or an eye existing independently is ludicrous."<sup>5</sup>

"When Paul wrote husbands are to love their wives 'as the Lord the church,' he was not being idealistic. He is being intensely practical. Because we are members of His body, our lack of love is replaced by His boundless love. Our little tributaries of love soon dry up but the ocean tides of His immeasurable love come in and overflow the banks of the narrow channels of our love.

The husband is not to resolve: 'I will love my wife as Christ loved the church. I will do my best to imitate Christ.' The result would only be an imitation.

The Holy Spirit is telling every Christian husband to draw on the fact he is a member of Christ's own body---'of flesh, and of bones,' as the King James version adds. A mystical but real, organic relationship exists between the believer and Christ, making it possible for a man to love his wife as Christ loved the church."<sup>6</sup>

"If this relationship between Christ and us did not exist, then Paul's whole idea of marriage was just a noble dream. But this relationship is not merely a glorious concept. It is a down-to-earth hard-fact reality. It is the principle on which all else rests. Our organic oneness with Christ certainly exists. We have God's Word for that. Any breakdowns are on our side, not His.

The key to making the principles of the marriage relationship work is faith. Our problem is we only half believe them. The principles, however, remain the same. We are members of His body. This principle applies to the wife in her role; in the same way it applies to the husband in his role."<sup>7</sup>

#### E. He will manifest a sexual love. v. 31

As we take a look at v. 31, we are once again looking at what Paul wrote in this Epistle to the Ephesians. If the husband and the wife are genuinely saved, this makes it possible for them to be sincerely intimate with each other, just like God planned it initially in the Garden of Eden.

I want to give you this list of Biblical reasons for the sex relationship within a God-ordained and God-blessed husband and wife intimacy.

#### Introduction:

Sexual Intimacy in marriage is a portrait of the relationship God desires to have with us... Oneness.

Ephesians 5:31-32 "For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church."

#### **5 BIBLICAL STATEMENTS ABOUT SEX WITHIN MARRIAGE:**

- 1. The purpose of sex is for procreation. Gen.. 1:28a "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth..."
- 2. The purpose of sex is for passion.

Proverbs 5:18-19 "Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth. Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love."

- 3. The purpose of sex is for pleasure. Hebrews 13:4 "Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge."
- 4. Man has the freedom to enjoy his wife's body. Song of Solomon 7:1-9
- 5. Woman has the freedom to enjoy her husband's body. **Song of Solomon 5:10-16**

When a man or woman has committed himself or herself to his or her spouse at the time of their marriage vows, this is a commitment to a life of complete oneness in their relationship. Just like a believer must totally and completely surrender his or her life to Christ on the day of salvation, so too, must each spouse completely commit himself or herself to their spouse in an anticipated life of unity and intimacy in the physical, the emotional, the mental, and yes, even the spiritual relationship. Total commitment to one's spouse is to be a vow until the day of death. When Paul told the Ephesian believers they should leave their parents and join themselves to their spouse with the same type of intimacy until death should they part, he wanted the husbands and wives to remember God took the rib of Adam and formed Eve with the rib, and their relationship should be a strong commitment to a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ibid, page 167.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Ibid, page 168.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Ibid, page 168.

lifetime of intimacy. The sexual relationship should be a normal and regular part of the marriage until the time when the age or health would no longer allow it. With the original home of Adam and Eve created the way God did, sexual relationships outsides of marriage are strictly forbidden by God. I sincerely believe no married individual should ever withhold the sexual relationship, unless there are physical health problems that will no longer allow. Remember, sex within marriage is sacred, but, outside of marriage, it is sin!

#### F. He will manifest a secret love. v. 32

In verse 32, Paul is saying a married man and wife should keep their intimate relationship sacred and secret during all of the years of their lives, just like the personal intimacy between Jesus and each believer He saves. A personal physical relationship between a man and his wife should never be shared with anyone, unless there might be a reason for a medical doctor or counselor to help a couple having problems in and with their relationship. For others, this unique and special relationship should be a mystery!

#### G. He will manifest a securing love. v. 33

"Verse 33 is a succinct summary of the fuller teaching which Paul has been giving to husbands and wives: 'Let each one of you love his wife as himself, for she and he have become one, and let the wife see that she respects her husband. It is true that 'respects' translates 'phobetai, meaning literally 'fears', but the verb 'may express the emotion of fear in all of its modifications and in all its degrees from simple respect through reverence up to adoration, according to its object. The apostle began with one couplet 'love' and 'submission'. He ends with another 'love' and 'respect'. We have seen the love he has in mind for the husband sacrifices and serves with a view to enabling his wife to become what God intends her to be. The 'submission' and 'respect' he asks of the wife express her response to his love and her desire he too will become what God intends him to be in his 'leadership'.<sup>8</sup>

The second greatest love (Loving Jesus is number 1) that ever can be secured by a husband is for him to love his wife as he loves himself. Then the second greatest respect that can ever be rendered is for a faithful loving wife to respect with honor for and submission to her husband.

## III. A REAL MAN WILL BE A MAN OF LABOR. vs. 26-27, 6:4

I would like to go back to the above verses in order to discover the plan God has given us in order that the husband might labor regularly to make his home a Godlier and more righteous place to live. I believe the husband should be a hard-working man on a secular job or ministry in order to provide for his family. In

(I Timothy 5:8), we are told if a husband or father doesn't provide for his family, he is worse than an infidel. The verse says, "But if any provide not for his own, specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." (I Timothy 5:8). There are some other places a faithful Christ-like husband should spend his time in improving the home he is the earthly head of.

#### A. He will labor to instill purity in his home. vs. 25-26

In verses 25-26, we are told by Paul when Jesus gave himself for His church, He did it to get the people in the church saved and sanctified; ready for their final trip to heaven. The only way any person shall be ready to go to heaven is first by personal salvation. Then, there must be the daily cleansing by the water of the precious word of God. The word sanctification in verse 26 actually means 'to cleanse or purify'. In other words, when Jesus died on the cross, He did so in order to save lost sinners from their sins. As the person lives daily, there has to be the constant washing by the Word of God. When Jesus saves a person, He doesn't do it just to provide eternal fire insurance for this believer. When Jesus saves a soul, He then sanctifies and separates the believer from the wicked world one day at a time, not only for the purpose of eternal life in heaven, but also, to prepare the new believer to work daily in the Kingdom of Christ until the person dies, or until Jesus returns. The main purpose of sanctification is to get the believer totally and completely sold out to God, in order for this saint to make sure this act of daily sanctification was carried out in every Christian family's home.

#### B. He will labor to instill perfection in his home. v. 27

Verse 27 in our text is one of the greatest verses in all of the Bible. Paul tells the Ephesian Christians, the primary goal of Jesus's death, burial and resurrection, was to provide eternal redemption for everyone who would repent of his or her sin, and surrender his or her

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The Message Of Ephesians, By: Dr. John R.W. Stott, IVP, page 231.

life to Jesus Christ. When a person gets gloriously saved, Jesus places him or her in the body of Christ, and from the day of salvation, God continues to perfect this believer until the day he or she dies, or until Jesus returns and raptures the church. Just as it is the plan of Christ to save people and place them in His bride, until the day of the final wedding ceremony. If a husband or father is going to develop and improve his marriage and family relationships, he must live every day in a dedicated manner in his attempt to eventually bringing his family to a state of pure and holy perfection.

#### C. He will instill peace in his home. v. 6:4a

In Chapter 6, verse 4, the first thing Paul mentions is fathers should maintain peace in the home by not provoking his children to the point of terrible argument, which might blow up and initiate a long-term peaceless period in the home and family. In so many homes, even in church members' homes, there is constantly arguing, fussing, and fighting. Instead of maintaining peace in the home; fathers, even some moms, sometimes contribute immensely to the friction, disagreement, or peacelessness in the home. Father and mother, you must do everything you possibly can to never provoke your children to anger.

"The Bible is a balanced book. God doesn't command children to obey their parents without giving an injunction to parents. Fathers (or parents, as the Greek word pateres can be translated) are not to provoke their children to wrath by being unreasonable in their demands, outrageous in their punishments, or inconsistent in their examples, rules, and controls.

No two children are alike. Some are strong-willed; others are passive. Some are clever; others are slow. Some are adventurous; others are timid. Some are bold; others are shy. Wise parents will study their children and make allowances. Many books on parenting are available today, but not all of them are equally good because much modern psychology leaves God out entirely. The best textbook of all remains the Bible, especially the Book of Proverbs. Wise parents know the Bible, study its case histories of parents, and ponder its stories of boys and girls."<sup>9</sup>

#### D. He will instill preparation in his home. v. 6:4b

"Spiritual education of children was a strong emphasis of Old Testament law. Israel was to keep the feast of the Passover, for instance, so children would ask, 'What is meant by this feast?' Parents were required to put Bible verses on the doorposts of their homes. Children leaving the shelter of home would be confronted by those verses and would carry the memory of some Word from God into their outside activities. Returning home, the children would again be faced with the verses on the doorposts. The verses would cause the children to think afresh, in the light of God's Word, of where they had been and what they had been doing and saying.

Christian parents have no greater responsibility in life than to make sure their children are raised in the fear of God, in the knowledge of the Gospel, in reverence for God's Word, and in the presence of the Lord Jesus.

Television, a great thief of time and worldly molder of character, needs to be banished or put under severe restrain. (the Internet is so far worse than the television.) In its place, parents must substitute good books, wholesome music, and Christian education—all bathed in Godly example and fervent prayer for each child's early conversion and lifelong consecration to the will of God.

Parents neglect these responsibilities to their peril. They will pay a high price indeed if they ignore **Ephesians 6:4**, and fail to heed this admonition from the Lord."<sup>10</sup> The last phrase in verse 4, gives us some tremendous truth for fathers and mothers. I hope you will pay much attention to the enlightened words by Dr. MacArthur.

"The positive command to parents is for them to bring up (their children) in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. Paideia (discipline) comes from the word *pais* (child) and refers to the systematic train of children. It includes the idea of correction for wrongdoing, as seen in the well-known Proverb, 'He who spares his rod hates his son, but who loves him disciplines him diligently' (Proverb 13:24). In the several uses of the term in Hebrews 12:5-11, the translators of the Authorized Version rendered it 'chastening,' which is clearly the emphasis of that context. Paul's meaning here is expressed even more fully, however, in the proverb 'Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it' (Proverb 22:6).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Exploring Ephesians and Philippians, By: Dr. John Phillips, Kregel, pages 174-175.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Ibid, pages 175-176.

Discipline has to do with the overall training of children, including punishment.

Susannah Wesley, the mother of John and Charles Wesley, raised seventeen children and said this about raising children: 'The parent who studies to subdue (self-will) in his child works together with God in the renewing and the saving of a soul. The parent who indulgence does the devil's work, makes religion impracticable, salvation unattainable, and does all that in him lies to damn his child, soul and body forever' (cited in The Journal of John Wesley (Chicago: Moody, n. d.), page 106.)

*Nouthesia* (instruction) is literally a 'putting in mind' and includes the connotation of correction. It refers to the type of instruction found in the Book of Proverbs, where the primary focus is on the training and teaching of children. It does not have as much to do with factual information as with right attitudes and principles of behavior. The key to right discipline and instruction of children is its being of the Lord. Everything parents do for their children is to be of Him—according to the teaching of His Word, by the guidance and power of His Holy Spirit, in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ."<sup>11</sup>

#### **EXERCISE: E**

**Instructions:** Individually complete this section, giving yourself about 15 minutes to complete the ACTION AND PRAYER sections. Then take a few minutes to complete the SHARE section with your mate.

#### ACTION:

# 1. Rank on a scale of 0-10 how well you feel you are doing in the role of LEADER in each of the categories below:

- a. Showing leadership in providing for physical needs of your family.
- b. Showing leadership in providing management principles in the following areas of your home: (1) Finances
  - $\frac{1}{2} \int \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{1}$
  - (2) Scheduling time for your family.
  - (3) Discipline of your children if still at home.
- c. Showing leadership in spiritual matters in your home (Bible reading, prayer, church attendance, Biblical wisdom).
- d. Showing leadership in character, conviction, example.
- e. Showing leadership in protecting the family.

#### 2. Rank on a scale of 0-10 how well you feel you are doing as a husband in the role of being a LOVER (Ephes. 5:22-25) in each area below:

- a. Serving Love (Agape)
  - (1) I accept my wife as she is unconditionally.
  - (2) I accept her not based on her performance.
  - (3) I express my love for her well:
    - (a) Verbally:
    - (b) Physically:
- b. Sacrificial Love (Ephes. 5:28):
  - (1) I put my wife's needs above my own.
  - (2) I give my time to meet my wife's needs.
  - (3) She knows she is TOP priority with me.
- 3. List below what you believe is your wife's:
  - a. Greatest Need:
  - b. Greatest Concern:
  - c. Greatest Dream:

4. After 20 years of research and marital counseling, Dr. Willard Harley, Jr., wrote in his book *His Needs/ Her Needs* that a woman's top five needs are the following. Please rank yourself on a scale of 0-10 on how well you feel you meet each of these needs.

#### NEEDS:

#### RANK:

- a. Affection
- b. Honesty
- c. Conversation
- d. Financial Support
- e. Family Commitment

## 5. What do you feel you could do to improve each of these areas if improvement is needed?

- a.
- b.
- с.
- d.
- e.

**PRAY:** Take time to individually pray and ask God to help you specifically in each area where He has convicted you, and in which you need improvement as a husband and a father.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The MacArthur New Testament Commentary, Ephesians, By: Dr. John MacArthur, Moody Publishers, page 319.

#### SHARE:

Get alone with your spouse and share with her the positive steps you have taken in the areas you have committed to God in order to become Godly husband and father.

#### **Conclusion:**

Would you say there is a true man in your house? I ask you this simply because if you have gotten what God has been trying to teach, you should at least be ready make a brand-new commitment to change your life to the Biblical principles we have learned. I promise you I will sincerely be praying for this to happen.

## Africa Mission Trip 2025

Please be in prayer for Pastor Joel Frye and the GIMI mission teams going to Uganda and Kenya June 20<sup>th</sup> through mid-July.
 Please pray specifically that God will get glorified through new professions of faith and that God will surround the team with traveling mercies and good health.
 We can't wait to see how God is going to move through these teams, to reach the lost.

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via e-mail, please contact TJ Patton at office@gatewayinternationalmissions.com or call the office at 828-632-2344.







#### **In Memory**

Link Osborne Brent Sanders Kathy Johnson Randall Wood

#### In Honor

Pastor Joel and Tricia Frye Pastor Stan and JoAnne Frye Pastor Tommy and Joyce Snyder Phyllis Gember

#### **Given by**

Imogene Osborne Billy and Patsy Sanders Lonnie Johnson Debra Wood

#### **Given by**

Barbara Cole Barbara Cole Embree and Sue Bolton Janet Carwin

Recent Photos From Our 2025 GIMI Banquet



Brother Wade Spencer Singing For Our Banquet Concert



Pastor Stan and Joanne with Joey Brown Joey is Serving GIMI on the Mission Trip to Africa.



Pastor Stan And JoAnne With Our GIMI Volunteer Office Workers



A Special Prayer With All Of Our GIMI Banquet Guests And Friends



Pastor Stan And JoAnne With Gary and Evelyn Cline. Gary is A Long Time Deacon With Pastors Stan and Joel Frye



Pastor Stan and Pastor Joel Frye Sharing News About Mission Trips





Pastor John Sharing The Gospel With A Huge Crowd Of Prisoners



Pastor Fred Telling School Students About Jesus And Giving New Testaments



Former Prisoner Abraham, Now Preaching The Gospel To Prisoners



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Pastor Kamanda Johnson Sharing The Gospel In A Liberian Prison With Many Gifts From GIMI