Decoding Ephesians 5
Best Marriage Advice Ever

https://youtu.be/yySmyIfmyjY



Men, are you having a hard time getting respected by your wives? I have the formula. It's absolutely going to revolutionize your marriage. If you're struggling with some vice in your life and you wanna learn how to walk in the light, this chapter in the book of Ephesians is gonna help you.

We're gonna walk verse by verse and uncover some mysteries and show you how Paul's instruction of wives submitting and husbands loving is connected to the north and south kingdoms of Israel. The mystery is about to be solved. Come join us right after this. Hello everyone, Jim Staley, Passion for Truth Ministries.

Welcome to this week's broadcast where we are now in chapter five of the book of Ephesians. We've been walking through it verse by verse. If you have been with us this entire time, then you know that we are building to a beautiful foundation that we're going to begin to start landing the plane here in chapter five. As always here at Passion for Truth Ministries, our goal is to dive deep into the Word of God and uncover its true meaning and the gold nuggets that have been left there from centuries and centuries of the Roman church and in the Protestant church, forgetting the roots are found in the Hebraic stones of the foundation of the Word of God. We've got to understand first century Judaism, the Hebrew backdrop of the Bible, and let the Holy Spirit illuminate the rhema word on top of that so the practical can meet the interpretive. And hermeneutics, which is just a fancy word for the interpretation of the Bible, means one thing, but really practically putting it into practice, that is what we're after. But we first really need to know what it says and understand exactly what the author meant, and that's what we're going to do.

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around the globe. And we need your help to do that. Super easy to do. All right, let's do this together. Chapter 5, verse 1. Pull out your Bibles or follow along with me.

Here we go. As you know, in chapter 4, it all ended with telling us to put away all these things, walk in love, and walk in the tender heartedness of Christ, and then it continues the letter. Now remember, there's no chapters, there's no verses when this was written. It's continuing the letter, and he says, therefore, be imitators of God as dear children and walk in love as Christ has also loved us and given himself for us in offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma. You know how often in our walks with one another, if we just looked at it as an honor to be accused, an honor to be slandered, an honor to have to get up on that cross for you, it's my honor not to take offense. Wow, that is a true sacrifice. You see, I believe the sacrificial system has absolutely never been done away with. It just operates in a different form. And quite honestly, we don't like to sacrifice. So it's easier just to say the sacrificial system is done away with. But the truth is that it's still alive.

The blood of Christ is being placed on the altar in the heavenly tabernacle, and that means the sacrificial system is still alive, and God's looking for a sacrifice in our own life. Not just a sacrifice of praise. The highest level of praise is what? ***Not taking offense***. Absorbing the chaos, holding someone else in their mess, letting them be emotional. Take the accusation. Take one for the team, ladies and gentlemen. That's what God has called us to do.

It's an honor and it's a sacrament. Verse 3, fornication, all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as it's fitting for the saints. Don't let it be named among you. Now, look, I get it.

People make mistakes, but at the end of the day, you can't stay there. We're not defined by our worst moment. We're defined by what we do after that moment. So if you've made mistakes in your life, recognize you don't have to stay there. Joseph didn't stay at the bottom of the well, even though he didn't put himself there. A lot of us just jump in the well, thinking there's something at the bottom, and then we break our leg and we stay there. But we don't have to. Get up. Because it's not fitting for the saints to stay at the bottom of the well either. neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are all not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. This is one thing that needs a minute to talk about. I have been even at Christian camps for youth where the youth leaders are joking with sexual coarse joking. I remember sitting around a bonfire once at a youth camp, and it was the last time that me and my children ever were a part of this group, but they actually were telling jokes, sexual jokes, joking around, and they just, just joking.

We're all adults. It doesn't matter if you're adult, it's coarse jesting about intimate things that don't belong in an adult conversation at all outside of you and your spouse. It blows my mind how much we have fallen and how much we compromise in our walks with God, and we think it's just joking around. Shall we forget? The scripture says no coarse joking. Don't do that. It's not okay. Don't be joking around like that.

Can you imagine hitting Christ, hitting Yeshua with your elbow and saying, hey man, look at this, blah, blah, blah, making some dirty joke? It's not okay. It's not okay. Let us grow up and not be children, but adults in God. Let's give thanks.

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Verse 5, for this you know that *no fornicator, unclean person, or covetous man who is an idolater has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God*. Listen, he's not saying that if you've made mistakes in your past, there's no sin that you can commit that God cannot forgive. What he's saying is, don't stay there. He doesn't say, if you were a homosexual. He says, if you are a homosexual, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. If you are an alcoholic, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. If you are a fornicator, and so on and so forth. If you are full of greed, by the way, nobody wants to talk about that. We always want to talk about homosexuality, but we want to talk about the same passage that talks about greed. That means that if you're not a generous person, if you're not investing in the kingdom of God and you're holding all of it to yourself, can you imagine an ancient Israelite never tithing to the Levitical system that is operating on their behalf to grow the kingdom of God in ancient Israel?

God would say, you're not following my word. You're a stingy person. You have a greedy eye. Anyway, at the end of the day, God tells us, don't be covetous. Don't be an idolater. If you've made those mistakes, get back up. Ask God to forgive you. Don't do it again. Don't do it again. I don't mind if my kids make mistakes. I just don't like it when they make the same mistake over and over.

Amen? All right, and neither does God. And then I love this part in verse 6, it says, *let no one deceive you with empty words*. Now, we know from Colossians, I believe it's chapter 2, verse 8, he says to the Colossians, don't let anyone come to you with deceitfulness and the traditions and doctrines of men. This is what's going on. There are so many groups that are coming into all of his congregations and they're deceiving them with what appears to be holiness, what appears to be godliness, but it's nothing but just religiosity. It's just nothing but tradition and doctrine of men. **Don't be deceived.**

For because of these things, the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore, do not be partakers with them. Do not partake with those who walk in these evil things, and do not partake with those that are offering philosophy and empty deceit. Okay, verse 8, for you were once in darkness, but now you are in the light in the Lord.

Walk as children of light. For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth. So, in Galatians 5, we have the fruit of the Spirit, right? Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

How do we get them? Well, Ephesians actually tells us where they're found. They're found in all goodness, righteousness, and truth. This is why we have a passion for truth here, ladies and gentlemen. This is why we seek the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Because if you find the truth, you have found the feet of our Savior. And once you find that, the fruit of the Spirit just grows out of that humble earth of recognizing that you are nothing. He is everything.

And you are to bow at His knee. You are abased at His feet, washing them in your tears, recognizing that you don't deserve anything. It's at that moment the fruit of the Spirit begins to grow. You see, it's the **pride of life.** It's the ego that's inside of man that prevents us from actually experiencing the life-giving power that is there. It's for all of us. But it requires humility. And this is why trials exist, because we don't spend enough time in prayer.

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There's only two ways to become intimate with God, either **prayer** or **pain**, and we get to choose which one we want to use to get there. Trials are God's instrument because we don't spend enough time in prayer to hear the voice of God, to be transformed by the renewing of our mind, to be transformed by the renewing of our mind. So the pain exists to grow us into a place of humility. And that is where the fruit of the Spirit grows. Verse 10, finding out what is acceptable to the Lord and have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. Guys, you know, this verse has been used so out of context. Oh, I've got to expose everybody else's darkness. That's what it says. Scripture says, expose the unfruitful works of darkness. No, it would break a dozen other scriptures. Our job is **not** to judge everybody else and point their sins out and point out the speck in everybody else's eye while the entire forest is in our eye.

No, no, that's not what it said. You expose the works of darkness by being a light. That's how you do that. We don't walk around going, there's darkness over there, there's darkness over there. No, darkness is exposed and flees when the light is turned on. And your job is not to expose someone's sins. Your job is to be a light to them. That's how you expose the deeds of darkness. **You become a light**. That's it. I never forget when people were hurting me deeply when I was pastoring and I had leadership issues and they were trying to steal and all kinds of crazy things. My wife told me in the deepest darkest hour, she said, Jim, I got a word from the Lord.

Just be a light. Let them steal. Be a light.
They're stealing not from you. It's not yours anyway.

Wow, what a revelatory statement. It rocked my world. I didn't want to agree with her because I wanted to do something. But, she was right. Just be a light. It's amazing. Wife out there, if your husband's not being okay, just be a light. Be a light. Don't point out the darkness. Just be a light. Let God deal with everything. For it's shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. Did you hear that? Again, that's just backing up what I'm just saying. We're not supposed to expose them verbally. It's shameful to speak of those things which are done in secret.

Just be a light. Let God handle it. But, "...and all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light." You see, I'm not making this stuff up. It's in the text. Everything is made manifest in the light. Yeshua is the light. You're the light. Lights don't talk. They shine. The point of this chapter is that, look, you are the light. Just be. Be brilliant. Light up the darkness with the truth that's in you. Live your life as if there's no one else around you. If no one else is around you, you can't get offended, there's nothing to point out, I just have to serve God. Act like you're on an island with God and just serve Him, love Him, worship Him, and watch everyone else watch you. And the darkness just goes away, and your petty things that aggravate you go away too. Awake, that's why he says, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore, he says, awake you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light. If you struggle with other people, you're walking in darkness.

I know I'm going to get some emails on that. That's okay. I've been walking in darkness for a very long time in many ways and many categories of my life. Because so many things aggravated me. I get frustrated easily. Anybody that gets angry quickly is not walking all the way in the light. There's too much darkness in that person. And I hate to admit it, that I had so much darkness inside of

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me. But that's just what the Bible says. If you're walking in the light, it's really difficult to be offended. If you're walking in the light, you walk in *love*. Jesus didn't walk around offended. Well, you might say, I'm not Jesus. We're supposed to act like him. Get up on your cross, love people, be a light. Watch what happens. Sometimes being a light is taking one for the team, and that team is Kingdom Yeshua. Sometimes being a light is getting up on a cross. It doesn't seem like a light. There's blood coming down. There's water and blood coming out of His side. It didn't look like a whole lot of light, but the moment the blood hit the ground, it exploded into a beam of light, and darkness fled from death. Sometimes we need to die in the flesh to actually be a light.

Being a light doesn't mean you're just giving the gospel all the time or telling everybody else all their sins. Being a light is sometimes crucifying the flesh. Verse 15, see then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time because the days are evil. What is this talking about? Don't just walk around like a fool, just thinking that you know everything that's going on. Be wise. Redeem your time. Don't waste it. The days are evil in front of us. We need to learn to be a light. Look, it says, therefore, do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Paul is, understand the will of the Lord.

Here we go. Let's find out what it is. And do not be drunk with wine in which is dissipation but be filled with the spirit. For me personally, I don't touch alcohol at all. We don't even have it in our home. We want to set a standard of holiness that is above the average. Why should I always try to find what I can get away with? Can I drink alcohol? Absolutely. I can drink alcohol. There's nothing in the Bible that says I can't drink alcohol. But I choose not to. It's not because I'm a pastor, a minister, a Bible teacher, scholar, whatever you want to call me. It's not because of that. It's because I understand there's people watching me.

I understand that my children are watching me and whatever standard that I have, theirs will likely be lower because every generation is likely not going to hit the standard of the previous generation. So I need to raise my standard so they can go higher. I choose not to drink alcohol. I'm kind of going on a little soapbox here. Because I want to be a good example. I want to have a good reputation. I want there to be nothing that my children or their friends can point at that would cause them to stumble, may it never be. I would choose to never drink soda ever again if soda was a stumbling block.

It's the appearance of evil can even actually cause someone to stumble. You might say, well, that's their problem. No, it's yours because the Bible says, don't cause even your little ones to stumble. and i can tell you how many people have been in my counselling office over the years that they became alcoholics because they got into their dad's liquor cabinet when they were twelve years old and their dad never knew it that's on the blood the blood of the their life that's all messed up on their father never got drunk but had liquor cabinet maybe that'll speak to some of you guys out there it's just not worth it you're being legalistic okay well I'll be legalistic, but I'm also taking no risk at the same time. But be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs. He's literally pulling covenant language out. He's pulling right out of the Old Testament and says, this is where you should be.

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We should be reading the psalms to one another, encouraging one another, singing, living in the spiritual realm making melody in your hearts to the Lord. In other words, everything that you do, you should give thanks for everything with God. There's no time to be drinking alcohol with your buddies, to be getting drunk here, doing this secular activity. That's not befitting for a priest. Now, if you want to be like, you know, one of the guys from Dan that lives like four miles from the tabernacle and you're cool with just seeing like a little speck of, you know, fire off in the distance. But I mean, I want to be like warmed by the pillar of fire. I want to be right there next to the tabernacle.

So if your motivation is just like to barely make it in the kingdom, smelling like sulphur and have the enemy, the Amalekites on, you know, at your side, then so be it. That's to each his own. But if you want the power of the living God, and you want to be where the action is, and you want to feel those flaming swords going in circles protecting the Spirit of God, that's pillar of fire, cloud by day. Then you've got to act different. You've got to have a higher standard. You've got to live for God all the time. That's what the priests do. And you're called what? A **holy nation**, a **royal priesthood** that is only reserved for covenant Israel. So, if you are partakers of the covenant of promise, and Paul's not lying when he talks in Ephesians 2 and Colossians 2 that you're now part of the commonwealth of Israel, then you're a ***priest***. And if we're a priest, then we need to act like one. And the rules for priests were more strict than regular Israel.

The rules were *more strict*. Why? Because he requires more of us. We are ambassadors. We get to be part of the temple's sacrificial system. We get to be part of preparing the way of the Lord. It's a John the Baptist moment, ladies and gentlemen. We get to be the ones that banner the love of Christ to the world. This is why he says, submit to one another in the fear of God. Submit to one another. This is not a coincidence. Everybody wants to go to Colossians 3 or Ephesians 5 and talk about wives submitting to their husbands, but nobody wants to read verse 21, which says, ***submit to one another in the fear of God.***

You know what's fascinating about this word, submit? I love this word. In the Hebrew, that word is ***natan***. It's the word Nathan, and it means to give to, it means to yield to. It doesn't mean a military submit. It means yield to one another. In the fear of God, listen to one another. Recognize your place in your hierarchy. And so that brings on a different understanding when you get into verse 22, and it says, wives, submit to your own husbands as to the Lord. Recognize that you can't fix your husband. My wife's been married to me for 30 years, almost. *She can't fix me.* She's figured it out. There's no way to fix my husband. She thought I was perfect when she married me, but then she realized that about four minutes flat, oh my gosh, what have I done? He's broken and I can't fix him. Like *he's fallen and he can't get up* and I can't get him up. I'll just pray for him. Let God deal with him. That's the best place for a wife to be.

Submit to your own husbands as unto the Lord, for the husband is the head of the wife, and Christ is the head of the church, and he's the Savior of the body. So if we are like Christ, then we are the Savior of our wife. We are the Savior of our family, like we as husbands, have all the responsibility in the world to love, protect, redeem, and feed our wives. If we're not doing that, a wife is going to let you know in every way, shape, or form. I promise you that. I've been there, done that. A wife can absolutely be an amazing thing, but it can also be the worst kind of mirror. And it took me a

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while to realize that. I kept trying to fix my wife, like me standing in front of the mirror and trying to fix the mirror. It's not the mirror's fault. **It's me.** The wife is just reflecting what her head is showing her. That hurts. Some of you out there need to hear that. If you have an issue with your wife, you might want to consider that she might be just mirroring something in you.

It doesn't stop at *wives submit to your own husbands*. It literally says *husbands love your wives*. I kind of wish he would have just stopped right there because if you just said husbands love your wives, then we get to define what love is, right? But he doesn't. There's kind of a comma there, and it's just as Christ loved the church, that would have been good. Stop right there. I got it. He loved the church. Gave us the gifts of the Spirit. Nope. Gave himself up for her. He died.

He died. He got up on the cross and died. So, listen, husbands, it's really easy for the wife to submit to you. All you got to do is just die for her, like you did when you dated her, and you courted her, and you tricked her into marrying you by bringing her flowers and caring about her and actually remembering her birthday and anniversary. Remember those days when you did a three-month anniversary? What would it be like if you courted your wife and you pursued her the way that you did? Because that's exactly what drew you to Christ.

He pursued you. **He pursued you**. He ran after you. He came to earth from heaven, cloaked himself in humanity, died for his bride, reunited the two sticks of Israel, invited all the rest of the world to come along with it, that mixed multitude, and then said, I'm going to give you all the grace gifts that you could possibly give. Now I want you to just love each other like I did. I gave you the example. ***Die***. Don't defend yourself. ***Die***. The moment I got **that**, it took me a very long time, the moment I got that, my marriage turned into a fairytale. Because the more I give to my wife, the more she amplifies and gives back. And we have this beautiful song. But it happened with me recognizing that it's **not** about me, my needs. It's about me being Christ for her. I don't exist. Jim Staley had to die. Jim Staley was too puffed up in his own egotistical way. I had to die. My needs had to be buried six feet under. It didn't matter. The husband, Jim Staley, had to die to actually live. Wow, what a concept. Where would I get that from? I had to live the gospel in my own house. And I'm not talking about preaching, I'm talking about dying all the time. And the more I die, the more honor I get from my kids, the more admiration I get from my wife, the more respect that I earn, the more freedom that I have. It's like the opposite of what is natural, the opposite of what the world says. But God says, Here's the formula, guys, it's so easy but so hard. But once you do it, there's a massive dopamine drop of dying on a cross.

Because once you see the formula, guys, listen to me, I'm telling you, we're all competitive. We all operate off a reward system, right? We take the trash out, we want our wife to pat us on the back, right? We're always looking for some sort of—we're like grown-up dogs. We just want somebody to rub our tummy. But this is the way God works. He just gives you the formula. **Die**. Just die. Stop debating. Stop arguing. Your wife is saying something that you don't like, just go up and give her a hug. Say, honey, I'm so sorry for hurting you. I'm so sorry. Who cares if it's true or not? She's hurt. She skinned her knee. She's blaming you. Maybe it wasn't you. ***Who cares?***

Care about her, not what you did. This is the power of a husband. He gets to be like Christ, not the wife. The wife doesn't have to get crucified. No, the husband is told. Be like me. That means the

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power of the living God is there. It's inside of you. You can do this. ***Men, be a man***. Quit acting like a woman. Quit being feminine and wanting to receive. And that's not a ditch on women. Women are called to receive. We are the ones called to give. Stop expecting anything. You're going about it all the wrong way. Wives, send this to your husband. Force them to sit down and watch this. Husbands, if you want to be respected, everyone would say, you must first be respect. No, no, you don't have to be respectful. You have to **die**. It's way worse than being respectful. You must die and you get ***everything***. You will rise from the dead. A brand new person, a real man, dies. A real man doesn't defend himself. A real man doesn't care in an argument if he's right. He just cares about the other person and if they're okay, if they're all right. Real men save their families, lift them up, and make them whole through their death. That's what Jesus did, and it worked.

The bride came running. I'm a living proof of being a jerk husband in the past, not always being, you know, what I need to be. Sometimes I got a bad attitude. Sometimes I get angry. I'm tired. I've worked too hard right now. It's 12:53 in the morning and I'm recording. Sometimes my wife gets tired of me climbing in the bed super late at night, but, but her well is so full because I'm giving all the time. I'm dying on it. And so she gives back. *She sees it*. Guys, let's do this.

We can do this. All right, let's finish this up here. Love your wives that he might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of the water by the word, that he might present her to himself a glorious church. Do you realize that you want your wife to be holy and cleansed? It's through your death is the washing of the water of the word, and he'll present her to himself. Not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies. I love that part because Paul basically is admitting we really love ourselves. Men are probably the most selfish animals on earth, and I literally said that. Like, we are animals. Like, it's crazy. We trick our wives to marrying us, and then we turn into these crazy people that are immature, like little children in a schoolyard. On one hand, super mature. On the other hand, Incredible Hulk over here, and then the worst villain over here. And we're, like, schizophrenic on four different levels. Some of you wives are laughing because you know it's true. We're a mess. You guys aren't really a mess. *We're* a mess. And whatever mess you are, we probably created, or some other man in your life created. It's our job to heal. How do we do that? By loving you. What? With the selfishness that we have here. He who loves his wife loves himself. What? This is so backwards thinking. The more you are selfish with your wife, the more you love yourself. Why? Because you understand the formula. **I finally get it**. After I don't know how many years, almost three decades of being married, I have just recently discovered this incredible formula.

So just so you don't think that I've just been this amazing husband for all these years, I haven't been. Don't ask my wife. She'll tell you how rough it's been. It's not easy being married to a pastor, period, or a minister. Much less a firstborn, much less someone like me that lives in the 1% in every way. It's difficult. But I finally figured out the secret. ***The secret is just to die.***

And the more that I pour into her, the more I actually love myself. It's a formula. If I want everything that I want, I have to give it to her first, period. And then she doesn't know what to do with it. So she amplifies it back, magnifies it 100-fold, and I receive my own works back. I never understood why sometimes my wife would give me a glass of dirt until God showed me, well, you're not

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putting any water in her well, so I told her just magnify. I built her to magnify whatever is in her well. You put a drop, you get 10 drops back. You put a gallon, you get 10 gallons back. Give her ingredients, she'll make dinner. Give her a house, she'll make it a home. Give her frustration, she'll give you hell. Like that's just the way it's going to work, right? She will absolutely give you the fires of hell. *She will amplify everything*. Give her a little bit of love, she will absolutely make love. Give her a little bit of intimacy, she creates a baby. It's amazing. God has built us for this beautiful formula of reciprocal love. For we are members of his body.

By the way, it says in verse 29, for no one has ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it just as the Lord does the church. For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones for this reason. Why? For the reason that we are members of the body of Christ, we leave his father and mother. A man leaves his father and mother to be joined with his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. He did not switch subjects. Let me finish this and then I'll preach. Nevertheless, let each of you in particular so love his own wife as himself and let the wife see that she respects her husband. And it's in that order. She doesn't respect you and then you decide to love her. That's what I used to do. No, you love like Christ, and she will automatically respect. She doesn't even need to be given that. A respectable man is a man that's a real man, and a real man is one who gives. He's not expecting anything. A real man is already fulfilled in Christ, doesn't need to receive anything because he is a man, a man's man, God's man.

Ladies and gentlemen, Paul is not changing subjects by going to husband and a wife. This guy is a rabbi of rabbis. He just spent all this time in five chapters teaching us, especially Colossians as well. pulling scriptures out of the Old Testament about the house of Israel and the house of Judah, and how God's going to bring them together and make them one, alluding to the two sticks of Ezekiel chapter 37, and then inviting the mixed multitude and solving this mystery of how the Torah is going to be fulfilled when God divorces the northern kingdom sends the bridegroom to die, satisfying Deuteronomy 24, setting the bride free to marry again without being called an adulteress. He sets up all this stuff and then he just switches subjects to talk about, hey, by the way, husbands, you need to submit to it. No. This is all a husband and a wife.

The whole story from Genesis to Revelation is all about a bridegroom and a bride coming together. It's the two shall become one. A man leaves his father. Jesus left his father to be joined with his wife. And the only way to be joined with his wife was to die. It's the same story. He's just bringing it down to brass tacks. He's bringing it home. He's bringing it home to me and you - and our wives. The only way to truly be joined with real intimacy is to die. And the man who dies the most lives the most. Men, if you want the best intimate life that you could ever have, **die**, and you'll have everything you've ever wanted. Just die every single day. It's the only way to be joined to your wife. And I mean that in every sense of the word.

Every woman should be writing amen in the comments right now. Preach it. If I don't look in the comments after this and see all kinds, I'm going to have to do this whole thing over again. Intimacy with your spouse begins not in the kitchen like the book says, it begins on the cross. **Die for your bride and the two will become one.** These sticks of Ezekiel, the one new man, the house of Israel, the house of Judah, the whole Bible is a love story. And he's trying to get our attention here. Israel can come back together again, like a husband leaves his father and unites with his bride.

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But there's only one thing. It's this little thing called the cross. You have to get up on it. You can't pass it up. It's the only way. God looked down on mankind and said, I don't have a choice. I have to enter into my own covenant law. I have to keep it. And I made the law. The husband's got to die to set the bride free. Let me ask you a question tonight, today, this afternoon, wherever and wherever you are.

When was the last time that you just got up on the cross and died?

Because that is the only way to live. In this broadcast, I feel called to pray. Whoever's out there, they needed to hear.

So,

> ***Father, I just come before you right now by the blood of the Lamb and the word of His testimony. And I pray for everybody in the sound of my voice that needs to hear this message, and everybody that's going to hear this message as they share it, that you would teach us, Lord, what real covenant love relationship is all about. Yes, it's nice to know the depth of your word, but God, to actually put it in practice in our own relationships, that's where we're failures, and we need you. I pray that you would infuse your spirit into especially the men of our homes today that they would get on their knees and repent before their families for not walking in the masculine role of giving, but walking in the feminine role of receiving. Let them die on the cross. Let their flesh and the foreskin of their hearts be cut. And I pray, God, that you would resurrect the bones of Joseph a real man who recognized that it wasn't about crucifying people that hurt him. When his brother showed up that day at Pharaoh's house, he said, Oh, brothers, I'm not mad. It was for such a time as this. And he just loved him. Thank you, Father God, for setting me free. I pray that you would set them free, in Yeshua, Jesus. Amen.***

My friends, we are almost done with Ephesians. This is a transforming series from beginning to end. It's affecting me deeply just by teaching it and going through it. I pray that it's a blessing. Thank you for walking along with us. Thank you for praying for us.

Thank you for supporting us. You can do that at passionfortruth.com. Partner with us so that we can make an impact in the world around us. In the meantime, I pray that you have a phenomenal day, an incredible week, and that you'll turn and tell your spouse, for those of you that are married, you love them. Ask forgiveness, nog focusing too much on yourself. All right, let's all be like Christ. Get up on that cross and die. ***It's the only way to live.***

Amen, amen? All right. I'm Jim Staley, and I'll see you in the next video.

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