

## GRACE WORKS

### EPHESIANS 5:22-24

How did you see God working in your marriage this week?

Background: “Has the song ‘Anything You Can Do I Can Do Better’ become the theme of your marriage?” Nancy Cobb and Connie Grigsby, How to Get Your Husband to Talk to You, p. 125.

**FOR “EVANIC” DESIRE** (Genesis 3:16) “This same word for desire is used in Genesis 4:7 of the desire of sin to master over Cain. Because of the curse, Eve would have to fight a desire to master her husband, a desire that works against God’s ordained order for the home.” David Guzik, “Blue Letter Bible” (Commentary on Genesis) It is only by God’s grace that a wife is able to submit to her husband. (**Genesis 3:16, Genesis 4:1-8, fn 4:7, Romans 6:14-18, fn 6:16-18, Titus 2:11-14, fn 2:11-14**) *Why did God curse the wife with an “evantic” desire to control her husband? How is Jesus glorified in a grace-filled marriage?*

**FOR WIFE’S SUBMISSION.** In commenting on the wife’s submissive role in Ephesians 5:22, Martyn Lloyd Jones points out that “this has nothing to do with a husband’s intelligence, giftedness, or capabilities. It has to do with honoring the Lord Jesus. You are not doing it (submitting) only to your own husband. You are doing it primarily for the Lord Himself.” (**Ephesians 5:22, fn 5:22-24[2<sup>nd</sup>], Colossians 3:17,18, fn 3:17, I Peter 3:1-3, fn 3:5, Ephesians 5:18**) *How could a wife help her marriage by living by grace?*

**FOR CHURCH’S SUBMISSION** to Christ. Just as there is one head in the family (the husband), there is one head in the church (Christ). (**Ephesians 5:23, 24, I Corinthians 11:3, fn 11:3[2<sup>nd</sup>], Galatians 3:26-29, fn 3:28, Galatians 5:16**) *How could the husband help his marriage by living by grace?*

The Bible was not written for our information only but for our transformation. *How will these verses change you in your walk with God and others, including your spouse?*

**Pray for one another’s needs.**