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Sunday AM Bible Study	9:30 AM
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday PM Worship	5:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Class	7:00 PM

Elders

Eddie Frizzell	(931) 526-3505
Gary Medley	(931) 528-8768
Roger Mayberry	(931) 537-3265

Deacons

Colonel Wheeler	(931) 526-5808
Greg Frizzell	(931) 265-2192
Kale Burchett	(615) 533-9134

Preacher

Randy Bybee	(931) 268-0912
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Welcome

The Pippin church of Christ extends to you a cordial welcome. We hope the services have been uplifting, and you will want to return at every opportunity.

Our purpose in meeting is to worship God in Spirit and in truth. God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and Truth. John 4:24

How to Become a Christian

Hear the Word - Romans 10:17
Believe - Mark 16:15
Repent of Past Sins - Luke 13:3
Confess - Romans 10:9
Be Baptized - Acts 2:38
Remain Faithful - Revelation 2:10

Radio Programs

The Lord's Way
AM 920 WLIV - Tuesdays @ 10:10AM

A Challenge to Think
AM 1400 WHUB - Sundays @ 9:05AM

Volume 34, No. 38

Agape — A Christian Husband's Obligation

BY JASON JACKSON

God's love excludes no one (Note: Sadly, many do not respond to the goodness of God, Rom. 2:4-5; cf. Acts 13:32-48.). Christians, the children of God, are called to agape their enemies and their brethren (Matt. 5:44; 1 Jn. 4:21). If Christians must love all people, surely Christian men should agape their wives. Christian husbands are to love their wives "as Christ also loved the church." (Note: "Agape" is one of several Greek terms translated by the English word love.)

When Paul wrote about the Christian home, he said "This mystery is great: but I speak in regard of Christ and of the church" (Eph. 5:32). God designed husbands and wives to be one (Eph. 5:31). What a beautiful revelation. The more we appreciate "Christ and the church," the more we will understand how we ought to behave as Christian spouses. B.F. Westcott wrote the following about Ephesians 5:32:

"This revelation of the unity of man and woman in one complex is of great moment. It opens before us a vision of a higher form of existence, and enables us to feel how parts which at present are widely separated may be combined into some nobler whole without ceasing to be what they are. But I speak looking to Christ and the church. In this final union we can see that humanity reaches its consummation" (St. Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians. Eugene: Wipf and Stock, 1998, p. 86). Paul instructs husbands to consider Christ, the perfect model for agape. Using agape as an acrostic, let us study five truths that help us understand the husband's obligation.

A is for attitudes and actions. It does not stand for avoidance. It is not a strategic apology to prevent a conflict. Attitudes and actions mean that the husband must think and act like Christ; he ought to be a "Christian husband."

Agape is not sentimentality. It is defined as the husband's love for his wife's soul. Like Christ who loved, and therefore gave, a Christian husband should be selfless in his attitudes and actions (see 1 Cor. 13:1-8).

G stands for goal driven. There is a reason, an eternal reason, for a Christian husband's attitudes and actions. It is the reason for which Jesus "endured the cross" (Heb. 12:2).

Consider the results that Christ sought for the church. He loved the church, so he gave himself for it, "that he might" (1) sanctify it; (2) present it; (3) "that it should be holy and without blemish" (Eph. 5:25-27).

Husbands should have the same kinds of goals for their spouses. Husbands should facilitate their wives' spiritual growth. Corresponding to Christ's example, they should contribute to their wives: (1) being set apart and serving others in the Lord (i.e., sanctified); (2) being faithful in all things so that their wives will be "presented" as a part of the church; (3) being vigilant to be "holy and without blemish." The Christian wife ought to be growing with her husband's help — not in spite of his hindrances. The Christian husband must make his home into a spiritual harbor wherein heaven is the goal.

A is for always. By its nature, agape does not wax and wain. "Love never fails" (1 Cor. 13:8). In other words, love is not going to be superseded by something better. It must remain as a permanent commitment to the one loved (cf. Rom. 5:8). Therefore, the husband should always be slow to become resentful. He must react good when ill-treated. He should never envy her. He ought to realize his inability to give enough and not report on how much he has given — always. He does not "file faults" or "fly off the handle," because agape is not overwhelmed.

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SERMON TOPICS

Morning	Practical Sanctification	1 Pet. 3:15
Evening	Angels I	Heb. 1:14

PRAYER LIST

JOHN AND MYRA JONES - John was not feeling well and was out Wednesday night, he is feeling better. Myra had oral surgery and is doing good.

WENDALL AND GENEVA SMALLWOOD - have not been feeling well and were out Wednesday night.

LOUETTA BENNETT - cousin of Leota has a brain aneurysm and is in ICU in Cookeville.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LADIES BIBLE CLASS

There will be a Ladies Bible Class starting Saturday September the 2nd at 1:30. The class will meet other Saturday and will be led by Denese Bybee. All ladies are encouraged to attend.

Polishing the Pulpit 20017 Lessons

Anyone wanting a copy of the lessons from Polishing the Pulpit can sign up on the sheet on the board in the vestibule.

Bulletin Updates

The bulletin is a great communication tool. If you have updates, additions or removals of sick please let one of the deacons know so the appropriate updates and changes can be made.

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P stands for principled conduct. This point also makes agape distinctive and divine. It means that the husband is called to love because God commands it. (Note: Paul uses the imperative mood to command the husband to agape according to Christ's example in Eph. 5:25.)

This love can be learned, and couples can conform to God's will and Christ's pattern. A husband can agape his wife even when he is not loved in return. It is not a proper consideration to ask, "Does she really deserve it?" We did not earn Christ's love. He loved us first (1 Jn. 4:19). The Christian husband will initiate a concern for his wife's spirituality out of principle — as Christ also loved the church.

E is for elevating benefits. Agape enhances the self-image of the one loved. "Designed by God, agape is the best medicine for mental health" (Ed Wheat. Love Life for Every Married Couple. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1980, p. 122).

Principled, goal-driven love, can help a spouse through times of significant anxiety. Agape can provide stability and emotional security. Divine love makes every day better, braking down walls of defensiveness and quarreling.

A husband, living like God wants him to live, will love his wife like Christ loved the church, giving himself selflessly for her spiritual needs. That is agape — a Christian husband's eternally rewarding obligation.

CITE THIS ARTICLE

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All Month - September

Table	James Scott
Tray Preparation	Denese Bybee
Table Assist	Dennis Chaffin Joe Brown Lucas Frizzell Mike Martin

Sunday AM Worship

Announcements	Gary Medley
Lead Singing	Andrew Pippin
Read Scripture	Joe Brown
First Prayer	Roger Mayberry
Last Prayer	Dale Flatt
Greet at Door	Josh & Samantha Lawson
Slide Production	Kale Burchett

Sunday PM Worship

Announcements	Gary Medley
Lead Singing	Andrew Pippin
Read Scripture	James Scott
First Prayer	Colonel Wheeler
Last Prayer	Andrew Scott
Slide Production	Kale Burchett

Wednesday Bible Class

Announcements	Gary Medley
Lead Singing	Joey Frizzell
Read Scripture	Vestle Hensley
First Prayer	Eddie Frizzell
Last Prayer	Wendall Smallwood
Slide Production	Kale Burchett

Happy Birthday

Nicole Castle	9/17
Madison York	9/21

Happy Anniversary

Kale & Amy Burchett	9/20
Chad & Denise York	10/1

Daily Bible Reading

Isaiah 17-19; Colossians 2	9/17
Isaiah 20-22; Colossians 3	9/18
Isaiah 23-25; Colossians 4	9/19
Isaiah 26-27; John 1:1-28	9/20
Isaiah 28-29; John 1:29-51	9/21
Isaiah 30-31; John 2	9/22
Isaiah 32-33; John 3:1-15	9/23

Question for the Week

What was the name of Haman's father?

Answer to Previous Question

Name the two wicked sons of Judah that were slain by God.

Er & Onan; Gn. 38:7-9

Pippin church *of* Christ

September 17, 2017



