The Christ-Centered Home (Part 2)
Colossians 3:18-21

Pastor Wes – April 19, 2026

I. Submissive Wives (v. 18)
II. Loving Husbands (v. 19)
- **A. The address – "*Husbands*"**
- **B. The Command – "*love your wives and do not be embittered*"**
  1. **Love your wife**
     - **An Unconditional Love**
     - **An Exclusive Love**
     - **A Sacrificial Love**
     - **A Sanctifying Love**
     - **A Providing Love**
     - **An Affectionate Love**
  2. **Do not be harsh with her**

Theme: Christ must have first place in our homes.

1) What would be some points of visible evidence that Jesus Christ has first place in a family's priorities?

2) Why might God's command for husbands to love their wives seem strange in the world's way of thinking? (Hint: Think about the world's definition of the word "love".)

3) The passage that most clearly explains how husbands are to love their wives is Ephesians 5:25-31. Read those verses, reflect on them, then write down the ways you can see that Jesus has shown His love to the church.

4) The most prominent evidence of Christ's love for the church is in verse 25. Christ's love led Him to ***die*** for us. What would it mean for a husband to ***live*** showing this kind of love to his wife?

5) Using the bullet list in the outline at the top of page 1, write a line or two for each one, telling how you already are (or will begin) blessing your wife in this area.

- Unconditional love

- Exclusive love

- Sacrificial love

- Sanctifying love

- Providing love

- Affectionate love

******* Wives, if your husband is trying to be obedient to the Lord in these application areas, are you already expressing (or getting ready to express) your appreciation to him and to the Lord?

6) Verse 19 also says that husbands are not to be bitter (NAS) or harsh (ESV) toward their wives. Bitterness is an inner condition, a feeling of antagonism, hostility, or resentfulness. Harshness is the outer result, becoming unkind or even cruel in action or effect. (Look at Hebrews 12:15 to see the process described.)

The focus of responsibility here is on you, husband. You are called to monitor your inner life and not allow bitterness to take root in your attitudes. Is such a problem currently festering within you toward your wife? What is the proper solution to this kind of attitude?