God’s Design for Christian Marriage – Part 5
Ephesians 5:28-33

1. God’s original design for man’s role - This is the way God intended it before there
was any ______ in the world: sinless man, full of love, in his _____________, strong
leadership in relation to woman (John Piper)

2. Consider before there was any sin in the world, God intended for the man to relate
to his companion and suitable __________ in a way that was full of love, and
therefore tenderly living with her in an understanding way. And being __________
on her needs, he was to lead her with strong leadership, protecting her and
providing for her, as suited the way God designed him.

3. Biblical headship for the husband is the ______ calling to take primary responsibility
for Christ-like, __________ leadership, protection and provision in the home.

4. Therefore biblical headship looks like the man’s servant leadership in the home,
carry out his functions of leading, protecting and providing in a humble loving way.
He lives his life to ______ his wife and children, and to give his life away in
meeting their needs in ____________ humble love.

5. Husbands are to love their wives even though they __________ fail in many ways,
just like Christ continues to love the Church in the midst of all of our failures. He
understands our neediness, indeed He is ____________ on it and provides for it,
and He calls us husbands to a similar kind of understanding of our wives needs.

6. 1 Peter 3:7 - 7 You husbands likewise, live with your wives in an ____________
way, as with a weaker vessel, since she is a woman; and grant her ____________
as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered. NASB

7. In the same way, husbands are to love and __________ for their wives. When you’re
hungry, you eat, when you’re tired, you rest. You work to keep yourself warm and
dry, to make yourself ______________ and happy and fulfilled. This is how we
Christian husbands are to love and care for our wives, and to this same __________
that we do for our “own bodies.”

8. We are one with Him, His beloved and ____________ bride! Consider the length
and depth to which Christ loves His dear church and cares for her and meets her
every need. Therefore just as Christ’s love is self-sacrificing and purifying, it is also a caring, ____________, and cherishing love for the church.

9. We must be careful of the _______ that we use when speaking to our wives, for a harsh, abrupt or cutting tone with our words communicates something less than a desire to nourish or love them. _______ words repel them, not draw them near. Christ speaks to us with grace and compassion, seeking to edify and _______ us up, not tear us down with His words.

10. But without a regular dose of _________ and warm affection and with kind and loving words, _________ is greatly hindered in marriage. And the husband should be ____________ in his romantic pursuit of his wife.

11. 1 Corinthians 7:3-5 - 3 Let the husband fulfill his ________ to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband. 4 The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does; and likewise also the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the ________ does. 5 Stop depriving one another, except by agreement for a time that you may devote yourselves to prayer, and come together again lest Satan _________ you because of your lack of self-control. NASB

12. Consider with this kind of devoted feeling in the heart, man is _________ to care for and nourish His wife, more than that, to live and _______ to make her comfortable, warm and fulfilled.

13. God has designed our marriage that we might be one flesh together. That we might be so intertwined in the beauty of _________ godly love that we are knit together in a ____________. So Paul quotes God’s original design, “For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall _________ one flesh.”

14. More than this he says, God designed this _________ earthly picture of the beauty of marriage to be a _________ of Christ and the church, so Paul says, “This _________ is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.”

15. See here the standard for _________ and godly femininity and masculinity in as it is ____________ in the marriage relationship. Ephesians 5:33 - “Nevertheless let each individual among you also _________ his own wife even as himself; and let the wife see to it that she ____________ her husband.”