

‘How to Spell Love to Your Wife’ Sermon Notes
Dr. Tim Cox, Pastor
Liberty Baptist Church, Chelsea, Alabama

Series: Growing Kingdom Families

Text: Ephesians 5:23-33

Subject: Husband’s Role In Marriage

Title: “*C-O-U-P-L-E: How To Spell Love To Your Wife*”

Notes:

- So, how do you spell **Love** to your **wife**
- **C-O-U-P-L-E**

1. **Closeness—She Wants You To Be Close!**

- A. Definition of **closeness**: “*For this reason a man shall leave his wife, and the two shall become one flesh*”—**Genesis 2:24**.
 - i. “**Cleaving**” = to cling, hold, or keep close
 - ii. The two are joined “**face-to-face**” becoming one flesh
- B. Your Wife Feels Close When...
 - i. Hold her hand
 - ii. Hug her
 - iii. You make a priority to spend time with her

2. **Openness—She Want You To Open Up To Her**

- A. A **Decision To Make**
 - i. Every **husband** must make a decision about his wife’s **sensitivity**.
 - ii. He can close himself off and **refuse** to be open, or he can move toward her and **connect** with her at new levels of openness.
- B. A Wife Feels You Are **Open** When...
 - i. You hare your **feelings**
 - ii. You say, “Let’s **talk**” and ask her what she’s feeling
 - iii. You give her your **full** attention

3. **Understanding—Don’t Try To “Fix” Her—Just Listen!**

- A. 1 Peter **3:7**
 - i. Peter advises **husbands** to “*live with your wives in an **understanding** way.*”
 - ii. Notice Peter did not say, “*Understand your wife,*” rather to live with her in an understanding way—there is a difference!
- B. To Understand—Just **Listen**
- C. To Understand—Just **Talk**
- D. She’ll Feel You’re Trying To **Understand** Her When...
 - i. You **listen** and can **repeat** back what she said
 - ii. You try to **identify** her feelings
 - iii. You never **dismiss** her feelings, no matter how illogical they may seem to you
 - iv. You say, “**Thanks** for sharing that with me.”
 - v. You **apologize** when your wrong

4. **Peacemaking—She Wants You To Say, I’m Sorry!**

- A. **Conflict**
 - i. It **will** come!
 - ii. It can help us **grow**.
 - iii. Peacemaking is always **difficult**, but always worth it!
- B. She’ll Feel At **Peace With You** When...
 - i. You let her **vent** her frustrations and hurts and don’t get **angry** and close her off
 - ii. You admit you are **wrong** and apologize by saying, “*I am sorry. Will you forgive me?*”

- iii. You **forgive** her for any wrongs she confesses
 - iv. You never nurse **bitterness** and always reassure her of your **love**
 - v. You **pray** with her after a hurtful time
5. **Loyalty—She Needs To Know You’re Committed!**
- A. How Much Do You **Love** Me?
 - i. A question a **wife** really wants to know
 - ii. She must have **reassurance**
 - B. She Is Assured Of Your Loyalty When...
 - i. You speak **highly** of her in front of others
 - ii. You are **involved** in things that are important to her
 - iii. You don’t **correct** her in front of children/others
 - iv. You don’t look **lustfully** at other women
 - v.
6. **Esteem—She Wants You To Honor And Cherish Her!**
- A. Made To **Honor**
 - i. God has made women so that they want to be **esteemed**, honored, and respected
 - ii. The way to honor your wife is to **treasure** her
 - iii. Your wife wants to know that you have her on your **mind** and in your **heart** first and foremost—this is **esteem**.
 - B. Your Wife Will Feel **Esteemed** When...
 - i. You say, “*I am so **proud** of the way you handled that.*”
 - ii. You **open** the door for her
 - iii. You give her **encouragement** or praise with kindness and enthusiasm
 - iv. You **notice** something different about her hair and clothes
 - v. You choose family outings over “guy things”
 - vi. You make her feel **first** in importance

CREDIT TO DR. EMERSON EGGERICHS

NOTES were compiled from Dr. Emerson Eggerichs’ book **Love and Respect**, chapters 8-14, pages 117-182.

This book comes with my highest recommendation for couples!