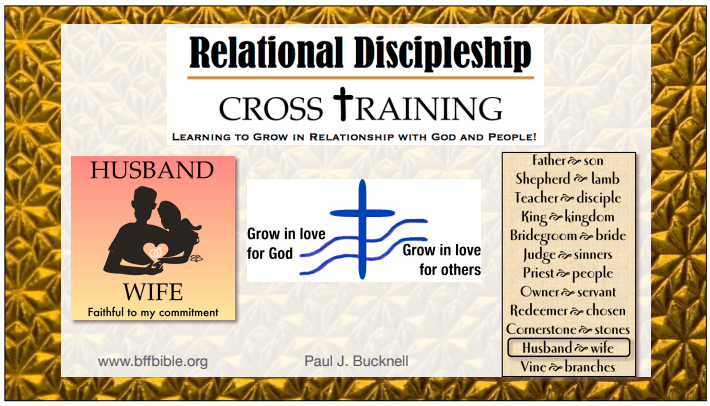


HUSBAND
WIFE

Cross Training

Covenant & Obligation

#11

Husband - Wife

God has designed and ordained the husband and wife relationship. Hidden within this most intimate of relationships God also has given us a special picture of His relationship with His people. Oneness speaks of unconditional commitment, complete identification, whole affection and unending devotion.

HUSBAND
WIFE

Cross Training

Covenant & Obligation

#11

Becoming One

- Surprise!
- Handling disappointment
- Rules of a good marriage
- Unconditional commitment (covenant)
- Two shall be one
- Commitment as long as both shall live
- Provides the foundation for intimacy

"For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh. This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church" (Ephesians 5:31-32).

HUSBAND
WIFE
Cross Training
Covenant & Obligation
#11

Our Goals

A Christ is the Head of the church → Appreciate and respect my authorities

B The church is Christ's bride → Develop trust in Christ and my husband

C Remain faithful to each other → Strengthen my relationships

HUSBAND
WIFE
Cross Training
Covenant & Obligation
#11

A Christ is the Head

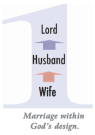
Understand and appreciate authority

1) Understanding Headship and Authority

"For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the savior of the body" (Ephesians 5:23).

2) Crises With Authority

(1) Man believes he has right to make decisions.
(2) Modern man believes he can change prior commitments.
(3) Submissiveness is considered weak and inferior.



3) Our Hope: The Word Of God

"Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything" (Ephesians 5:22,24).

Subjection is a great response. Plan to obey when appropriate.

HUSBAND
WIFE
Cross Training
Covenant & Obligation
#11

B The Church as Wife

Developing trust in His irresistible leadership

1) The Commitment Questioned

- Christ as Lord?

"This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church. Nevertheless let each individual among you also love his own wife even as himself; and let the wife see to it that she respect her husband" (Ephesians 5:32-33).

2) Appreciating God's Design

- Often tempted to think that our feelings or decisions are better than Lord's.

3) Love Never Fails

"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her. ... so husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies" (Ephesians 5:25, 28).

4) But If …

"You wives, be submissive ... even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives" (1 Peter 3:1).

Thank God for relationship with God and spouse. Trust them more.

HUSBAND
WIFE
Cross Training
Covenant & Obligation
#11

C Faithfulness & Charity

Living out our oneness

1) Working Out Your Oneness

- Oneness relates to both your relationship with God and spouse.

2) Never Two

"Consequently they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate" (Matthew 19:6).

3) Pure And Faithful

"Every one who looks on a woman to lust for her has committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matthew 5:28).

4) Kindness And Caring

God's commands help us affirm our oneness. "Bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against any one; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. And beyond all these things put on love..." (Colossians 3:13-14).

Pick at least two areas to work on and make changes.

HUSBAND
WIFE
Cross Training
Covenant & Obligation
#11

Take Home Project

- Memory Verses (Colossians 3:13-14)
- Head and Toes

What do you do when someone in authority over you directs you to do something that you don't like? Write your response down in your spiritual journal. Do this for at least two situations.

Issue	Response	Good/Not	Steps to Improve
	Words Actions Attitudes	☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐

- Oneness Forever

From part 'C' write down out two things that will help you affirm your relationship with the Lord and/or marriage. Write down the two areas on the left and actual steps to carry out that oneness.

(1)

(2)

HUSBAND
WIFE
Cross Training
Covenant & Obligation
#11

Summary

A Authorities are God-ordained. I will accept and respect them.

B I will always obey those in authority over me without grumbling.

C I affirm my oneness with my spouse by doing those things that build up our relationship.

Relational Discipleship

CROSS TRAINING

LEARNING TO GROW IN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND PEOPLE!

HUSBAND

WIFE
Faithful to my commitment

Father ➪ son
Shepherd ➪ lamb
Teacher ➪ disciple
King ➪ kingdom
Bridegroom ➪ bride
Judge ➪ sinners
Priest ➪ people
Owner ➪ servant
Redeemer ➪ chosen
Cornerstone ➪ stones
Husband ➪ wife
Vine ➪ branches

www.bffbible.org

Paul J. Bucknell