

MAY 14th, 2017



Genesis 1:27

Male and Female. **He made them.**

The Marriage Mystery

The Marriage Mystery

Ephesians 5:21-33

Male and Female.
He made them.

Genesis 1:27



ESV© 2001, GOOD NEWS PUBLISHERS

 west london
ALLIANCE CHURCH

Context: Cultural and Scriptural

Gender roles and ordering within families common throughout the ancient world. But Greek and Roman philosophers had faulty foundations. In general, a profoundly challenging context for women in particular.

Male and Female.
He made them.
Genesis 1:27



ESV© 2001, GOOD NEWS PUBLISHERS

Context: Cultural and Scriptural

The apostle Paul's approach to ordering the household would have been radical! Based upon creation design and function, household hierarchy becomes a beautiful reflection of Christ and his Church!

Male and Female.
He made them.

Genesis 1:27



ESV© 2001, GOOD NEWS PUBLISHERS



west london
ALLIANCE CHURCH

BIG TRUTH #1

Christian marriage reflects God's union of
Christ and the Church.

- It is a work of the Spirit (**Eph 5:18**)

Male and Female.
He made them.

Genesis 1:27



ESV© 2001, GOOD NEWS PUBLISHERS



west london
ALLIANCE CHURCH

How do we “submit to one another?”

Ephesians 5:21

Male and Female.
He made them.

Genesis 1:27



ESV© 2001, GOOD NEWS PUBLISHERS



west london
ALLIANCE CHURCH

1. How do we “submit to one another?”

- Wives submit to their own husbands
- The wife chooses submission, and does it *‘unto the Lord’*
 - A radical idea for the time
- Different role does not mean different value!
- Godly submission negates manipulation

Male and Female.
He made them.

Genesis 1:27



ESV© 2001, GOOD NEWS PUBLISHERS



west london
ALLIANCE CHURCH

2. Christian Headship

- What do wives learn from the submission of the church to Christ?
- It is also voluntary
- His headship over the church is God given

Male and Female.
He made them.

Genesis 1:27



ESV© 2001, GOOD NEWS PUBLISHERS

2. Christian Headship

- Christ mediates through his headship: nurture and edification of the church for God's glory, his good purposes, and his ultimate goal
- Makes us image bearers, walking in and demonstrating his sacrificial love

Male and Female.
He made them.

Genesis 1:27



ESV© 2001, GOOD NEWS PUBLISHERS



west london
ALLIANCE CHURCH

3. Husbands love their wives

- Husbands not commanded to rule but to love
- The bar is set high: love our wives as Christ loved the church!
- His love is self-sacrificial
- His love is covenantal

Male and Female.
He made them.
Genesis 1:27



ESV© 2001, GOOD NEWS PUBLISHERS

3. Husbands love their wives

- His love's goal is our ultimate consummation with the Lord
- The husband is to love his wife as himself
- His love nourishes and cherishes: how are we feeding and treasuring our marriages?

Male and Female.
He made them.

Genesis 1:27



ESV© 2001, GOOD NEWS PUBLISHERS



west london
ALLIANCE CHURCH

BIG TRUTH #2

Since Christian marriage reflects God's union of Christ and the Church we ought to follow his divine order.

Male and Female.
He made them.

Genesis 1:27

- This is a “*gospel issue*”
- What an opportunity to witness to God's glorious gospel



ESV© 2001, GOOD NEWS PUBLISHERS



west london
ALLIANCE CHURCH

MAY 14th, 2017



Genesis 1:27

Male and Female. **He made them.**

The Marriage Mystery