

Catechesis Minute

The 6th Commandment

You shall not commit adultery

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husbands and wives should love and honor each other.

What does God require especially of married people?

God requires married people to love, honor, and respect each other. The wife is the husband's God-given helper, and the husband is the wife's God-given head.

The whole basis for this unique union is found in **Genesis 2:18**, where the only thing that God saw was not good about His creation was that the man was alone; there was no mate for him. To be good is to be complete. Man was incomplete; woman completes man.

So, it stands to reason that since the woman completes the man that the man completes the woman, that without the man, she would be incomplete. For this reason, according to **1 Corinthians 7:4**, the two willingly surrender authority over their own bodies to their spouses. In marriage, *the two become one flesh* (**Genesis 2:24**), not two individuals living together and “doing their own thing.”

The key to staying together is attitude. According to **Ephesians 4:32**, kindness and tenderness govern their relationship as they forgive one another as God in Christ has forgiven them.

In **Ephesians 5:21-23, 25**, the relationship of the husband and wife parallels the relationship between Christ and the church. Christ loved the church and gave His life for her; for this reason, the church submits to Him as the Head of the church. In the same way, the husband is to love his wife and give his life for her; for this reason, she submits to him as the head of the household.

According to Scripture, this is what marriage was to look like from the beginning.

May the Lord bless you in your walk with Him.