

# Family

MATTERS



*Nurturing*

**FOR ETERNITY**



nur·ture

/'nərCHər/

*verb*

to care for and encourage the growth or  
development of

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*We all want to nurture our families*

# BLESSINGS FROM GOD

- Marriage is ordained and esteemed by God
  - Genesis 2:23-25 – Adam & Eve
- Children are a blessing from God
  - Genesis 22:17 – Abraham's descendants 'like the stars'
  - Psalm 127:3-5 – a heritage from the Lord... a reward

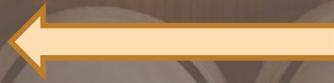


## **Ephesians 5:25-27 (NIV)**

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.



# Ephesians 5 in pictures



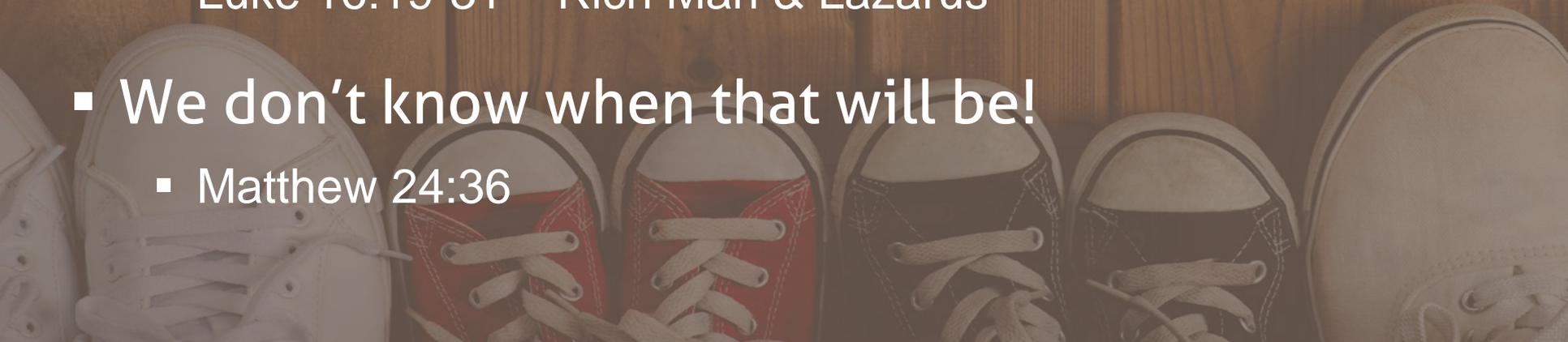
## Ephesians 5:22-24 (NIV)

Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.



# MARRIAGE & ETERNITY

- Marriage is not eternal
  - Mark 12:18-25 – Jesus & the Sadducees
- There will come a time when it is too late
  - Luke 16:19-31 – Rich Man & Lazarus
- We don't know when that will be!
  - Matthew 24:36



That was awkward.

“No one knows the day or the hour...”  
Matthew 24:36

# WISDOM FROM PROVERBS

## 1. Don't be proud of your family!

*When pride comes, then comes disgrace,  
but with humility comes wisdom.*

Proverbs 11:2 (NIV)



# WISDOM FROM PROVERBS

## 2. Commit your family's development to the Lord

*Commit to the Lord whatever you do,  
and your plans will succeed.*

Proverbs 16:3 (NIV)



# WISDOM FROM PROVERBS

## 3. Focus on character, not on achievements

*A wife of noble character is her husband's crown,  
but a disgraceful wife is like decay in his bones.*

Proverbs 12:4 (NIV)



# WISDOM FROM PROVERBS

## 4. Develop, and model, a fear of the Lord

*He who fears the Lord has a secure fortress,  
and for his children it will be a refuge.*

Proverbs 14:26 (NIV)



# Ephesians 5 in pictures (again)



# Ephesians 5 in pictures (again)



# Ephesians 5 in pictures (again)



# Ephesians 5 in pictures (again)



## **Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)**

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.



# FOCUS OUTWARDS

- Be an 'adult'
- Build 'into' your family by serving others
- Be prepared to sacrifice



# CHALLENGES

- Do SOMETHING! (no, really)
- Prayer challenge
- What do your kids see?



*Nurture*

**FOR ETERNITY**

