

The Personal Work of Being a Husband **09-17-17 AM**

Being a Christian means having a life that is in line with the law of Christ and the way of Christ. It is not just one part Christian, but all things are in Christ. In Ephesians 5-6, Colossians 3-4, and 1 Peter 2-3 there are a series of relationships (husbands and wives, parents and children, employees and employers) in which we are told how to conduct ourselves. This is (time-wise) most of what it means to be a Christian.

Five expectations of Husbands: Ephesians 5:19-33, 1 Peter 3:7

- 1. The husband is the head....*
- 2. Love your wives as Christ loved the church*
- 3. Love.... as your own body... as your own self*
- 4. Present her.... holy and blameless*
- 5. Live with your wives in an understanding way*

1. Husband Headship

Headship means leadership in authority

- It is NOT something earned or forced
- Standing AS CHRIST before the home

The Work of Headship is lost when:

- Men force others to lead them
- Men do not stand in front as examples

2. Loving Like Christ

Christ's love = working EVERYTHING to aid

- DYING to provide for His ONE bride
- Providing EVERYTHING she needs spiritually

The Work of Christ's love is lost when:

- We put our desires first
- We have love for something else first

Learning to Love Yourself

3. Loving your own self

- Confidence in headship
- Valuing yourself in Christ

The need to love yourself is lost when:

- You value the wrong things in yourself
- You fail to esteem what Christ loves in you

Presenting Your Wife Holy

4. Presentation of a wife before God

- You are charged with her spiritual enablement
- You are God's son-in-law too

Failing to present our wives holy is when:

- We make it harder for them to be faithful
- We don't demonstrate spiritual conduct

5. Living in an Understanding Way

Jesus is a merciful and understanding High Priest

- He had to learn this quality
- Husbands must learn to understand their wives

Men are not in an understanding way when:

- They have not exerted effort to understand
- They are unwilling to be empathetic

Conclusion:

Peter said that men must live this way “that your prayers may not be hindered. This means that your behavior as a husband is a matter of eternal judgment. There is a serious expectation of spiritual leadership from God. If you can’t do it, don’t marry! But understand that you can do all through Christ (Phil. 4:13). At the same time, those who are with husbands and fathers need to enable this headship.