

Biblical Covenant in the Home

Covenant Order and Personal Accountability

Zion's Roar Holy Spirit Ministry
Bixby, Oklahoma



Book 5 - Chapter 01 – Study 02

The Husband as Head Under God

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A Letter to the Husband Before You Continue

To the man reading this,
Before you continue into this study, you must first understand something clearly:

You are not about to examine your wife.
You are about to be examined yourself.

Do not continue if your mind is already preparing defenses.
Do not continue if your heart is already collecting excuses.
Do not continue if your first instinct is to compare your obedience against her failures.

That is not humility.
That is self-protection.

Many husbands speak of authority while refusing responsibility.
Many demand respect while neglecting sacrifice.
Many desire peace in the home while feeding anger, selfishness, pride, passivity, lust, harshness, emotional instability, or spiritual laziness.

And then they wonder why the home becomes heavy.

You must understand this:
YHWH will not judge you according to your wife's obedience before Him.
He will judge you according to your obedience before Him.

The question is not whether your wife has faults.
The question is whether you are walking uprightly before God as a husband.

Some men use headship as a shield for pride.
Some use authority as permission for control.

Some speak of leadership while their homes are spiritually starving beneath them.

Some expect honor while refusing to love sacrificially.

Some correct constantly while refusing correction themselves.

This should not be so among those who claim to follow Christ.

The husband was not called merely to rule.

He was called to die to himself.

A husband who refuses sacrifice but still demands submission has already corrupted the order established by YHWH.

Do not misunderstand this study.

It was not written to flatter you.

It was not written to entertain you.

It was not written to help you win arguments.

It was written to confront you before God.

So read slowly.

Read honestly.

Read prayerfully.

And if YHWH exposes something within you, do not harden your heart against correction.

Correction is mercy when it leads a man back into obedience.

Do not ask whether this study is difficult.

Ask whether it is true.

Because if it is true, then your responsibility is no longer to debate it, soften it, or explain it away.

Your responsibility is to obey.

John,

Servant of Christ

Zion's Roar Holy Spirit Ministry

This study is for the husband alone.

Do not read this to measure your wife. Do not compare yourself to her, and do not use what you read here as a way to justify yourself based on what she does or does not do.

This is about what YHWH requires of you.

If your first reaction while reading this is to think about her failures, then you have already stepped outside the purpose of this study.

You are not being examined next to your wife.

You are being examined before God.

Whether your marriage currently feels strong or broken is not the primary issue here.

The issue is whether you are walking in obedience before YHWH as a husband.

Your responsibility before God does not change based on your wife's behavior, maturity, attitude, or failures.

You are commanded to obey regardless of your circumstances.

To truly understand the part in marriage and how to be a godly husband, you must study and learn what YHWH created men for. You must understand what YHWH requires of you toward the woman entrusted to you.

1- You must become like a Berean.

The gospel speaks of a group of people known as the Bereans that when Paul preached, they listened carefully, received the word gladly, BUT most important was that they searched the scriptures daily to make sure that what Paul had said was scriptural truth! YHWH wants us to be just like the Bereans, that received the word with all readiness of mind and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so! (Acts 17:10-11)

So, basically, if someone comes to you and preaches something that sounds like scripture, you are to listen, receive it AND verify with the scriptures whether it is Godly truth, then and only then MUST you reject it or apply it into your life.

Even what we are teaching you. You must verify it with the scriptures. NOT WITH GOOGLE! It is always better to know scripture that YOU have researched and verified yourself through the bible and a concordance and not just know it because someone told you, and you trusted their word.

Unlike many pastors we love to back everything we say with scripture, and we give plenty of them. And we also accept correction 2 Tim 3:16 (KJV) All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

2- You must seek Godly truth and salvation first, before trying to help others get saved or become more “Godly like”!

The word of YHWH warns us about following a common salvation plan!

Jude 1:3 (KJV) Beloved, When I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the Saints.

Let us break this verse down.

Ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the Saints.

The definition of EARNESTLY is with sincere and intense conviction; seriously.

The definition of CONTEND is to strive.

So, this is what Jude is saying:

It was needful to write to you of the common salvation and appeal to you that ye should, (leave that common salvation plan and) with sincere and intense conviction, strive for the faith which was once delivered unto the Saints.

There are many common salvation plans, but none of them are of the true faith!

Basically, they are counterfeit salvations and will never lead anyone into the kingdom of Heaven.

Will you give a couple of examples of “Christian” church groups that you believe teach a counterfeit salvation plan?

Lastly, what church and denomination do you attend?

3- We would like you to watch an eye opener video and take notes.

“Am I saved, Part 1”.

There are 2 Ways to watch the video:



1-Use the QR scanner on your phone.

2-Go to Youtube.com and search for “Am I saved, part 1, what do I need to do, Is my Christian doctrine of salvation the right one?” by Zions Roar Holy Spirit Ministry.

4- Obedience and love to YHWH comes first above anyone, including your wife.

Luke 14:26 (KJV) If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

It is highly recommended at this moment for you to pause and read study **B3-C02-S01- Love Proven Only Through Obedience.**

Obedience is the practical acceptance of the authority and will of YHWH. It includes both submitting to Him and then expressing that submission in actions, words and thoughts. To be obedient is to be in agreement with YHWH. To be in agreement and obedient to YHWH and His commandments is to love Him with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind.

The only way to keep the first commandment is to love YHWH, and the only way to love YHWH is by being obedient to His commandments. There is no other way around it. It is a plain and simple circle.

Matt 15:8 (KJV) This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

Obedience is better than sacrifice.

1 Sam 15:22 (KJV) And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

The only way to love YHWH or to show Him we love Him, is “if” or “as long as” we are obedient to Him.

John 14:15 (KJV) If ye love me, keep my commandments.
Also in 2 John 6, Mark 12:30-31, Luke 10: 27-28, Matt 22:37-38, Deut 6:5.

YHWH will hear us “if” or “as long as” we are obedient to Him and worship Him!

John 9:31 (KJV) Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.

“Christ” (יהושוע) Jehoshua Hamashiach) says that “if” or “as long as” we keep His commandments, we will abide in His love

John 15:10 (KJV) If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

Obedience to YHWH Demonstrates Faith:

1 John 2:3-6 (KJV) And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. 4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. 6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

God the Father shows mercy unto thousands of them that love Him and keep His commandments.

Exo 20:6 (KJV) And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments. Also found in Deut 5:10.

Disobedience Leads to Sin and Death:

Rom 5:19 (KJV) For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. Also found in 1 Cor 15:22

5- Single or married?

When YHWH saw Adam on his own in the Garden of Eden, he said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him” (Gen. 2:18). So, Eve was created to meet Adam’s need as a helper and for companionship, and the two came together in the lifelong relationship of marriage. Although Paul is

positive about singleness, there's no doubt marriage is regarded as better in the eyes of YHWH.

We just really need to read in between the lines and understand the negatives and positives of a single person vs a married person. But, at the end, marriage is YHWH's loving gift to humanity and the chief context in which our desire for intimacy is met.

Genesis 2:18 (KJV) And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

Single people are therefore likely to struggle with loneliness and sexual temptation. Those struggles are certainly not exclusive to the unmarried, but they are very much a part of the "single" condition. Some will seek to lessen them by getting married. Single men are likely to face a lifelong battle with loneliness and sexual temptation.

And again, the bible says that finding a wife is a good thing! Proverbs 18:22 (KJV) Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD.

It even elaborates in Proverbs 31 about the kind of wife a husband should seek to find.

6- Do you desire to be a Godly husband?

Both desire and godly are the key words here. The desire to be godly is vital.

It is something that no pastor, friend, writer, nor even a wife can impart to any man. He must himself desire to be a godly man. If that desire grips your heart, then, believe more than half of the battle is won for the glory of YHWH. If you do not desire to be a godly husband, then, the "game" will stall until this ungodly defect is addressed.

By a "godly" husband, we do not mean "religious," nor even "praying." There are more than enough religious, praying, ungodly husbands and wives in this world than husbands and wives that are truly trying to become Godly.

So do not settle for agreeing with this definition.

The question is not whether you understand godliness, but whether it is present in your life.

You may define it correctly, speak about it clearly, and still not be living it.

So, examine yourself:

Is your life actually aligned with what you just read, or are you only informed about it?

Godliness is a matter of having a Godward orientation, of living life with the living God of the Bible consciously in mind. It is a life gripped and motivated by genuine love for YHWH, which necessarily involves the keeping of His commandments (1 John 5:3). It is trusting YHWH enough to believe, study, digest, treasure and become completely obedient to His word.

1 John 5:3 (KJV) For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

And so, I commend this list of questions to you, for your consideration. This is meant for your private use. If you find that any or all of these apply, then praise YHWH for counseling you through His word, and do take them to heart. If they do not apply in your situation, then learn from whatever Scriptural content is there, keep them in case YHWH gives you the opportunity to offer wise counsel to another, and move on. Romans 15:14 (KJV) And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

Whether they apply can best be determined between you, the God of the Bible, and your wife.

7- What matters most to you as a husband: to please YHWH, or to please yourself and assume that He concurs?

2 Corinthians 5:9 (KJV) Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of Him.

This is the foundational question for your growth as a godly husband. If pleasing YHWH is not your paramount goal, then absolutely any excuse will deter you from doing His will. Jeremiah 18:12 (KJV) And they said, There is no hope: but we will walk after our own devices, and we will every one do the imagination of his evil heart.

If pleasing yourself is still your priority, then no amount of instruction will change you. You will continue to justify what YHWH is calling you to crucify.

In that case, YHWH Himself will not persuade you by words alone to bow your knee before His word, let alone a mere mortal (Jer. 25:3-7, among many others). Again, in that case, you can save yourself a lot of time: do not bother reading any of the following questions. They will only serve to provoke you to bitter anger, because some or all will show YHWH's will as being opposed to your will. You will be angry at YHWH (Exod. 5:2, 1 Kings 18:17), and at anyone who directed you to this tool.

On the other hand, if it is your will to do YHWH's will, no obstacle will defeat your efforts. You will either cast all obstacles aside (Heb. 12:1) or tear them all down (2 Cor. 10:4, 5). In that case, you will find these questions of some use. You will learn from them all. You will take those which apply to heart, and be grateful for YHWH's good counsel (Ps. 119:24, 164, 165); those which do not immediately apply, you may use in encouraging other men to godliness (1 Thessalonians 5:11; Titus 2:4, 5).

If you find anything to be un-Biblical, you must reject it; and if it is Biblical, you must embrace it. 1 Thessalonians 5:21 (KJV) Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

A Godly marriage depends greatly on the husband because the husband is the head of the wife. Ephesians 5:23 (KJV) For the

8- A Godly husband?"

No one is naturally godly. Neither men nor women can be everything YHWH wants them to be in their own strength.

Especially if all they have is worldly knowledge.

So, to be a godly husband requires that we first surrender our lives to our Lord and Savior “Christ” (יהושוע) Jehoshua Hamashiach) and search the scriptures to see what YHWH has to say about marriage and how married couples should treat each other.

To be “Godly” means we must have YHWH with us, in us and within us.

Galatians 2:20 (KJV) I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Titus 2:12 (KJV) Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

Philippians 2:3-4 (KJV) Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. 4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. When His Spirit lives in us, He empowers us to live godly lives.

There are some things as men that we must work at, if we truly want to be followers of “Christ” (יהושוע) Joshua Hamashiach), and in this case, we need them in order to be a good and Godly husband.

Leadership.

Biblical leadership is not dictatorship, intimidation, selfish control, or harsh authority.

A godly husband leads the same way Christ leads, through sacrifice, obedience, truth, patience, and holiness. A man cannot spiritually lead his home while he himself refuses to follow YHWH. A leader goes first, forging the way, wrestling through spiritual issues, and then presenting YHWH’s instruction to his

family. An ongoing personal relationship with “Christ” (יהושוע) Jehoshua Hamashiach) is crucial in order to lead a family spiritually.

YHWH holds men responsible for the spiritual and physical well-being of their families. 1 Timothy 5:8 (KJV) But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

Leadership in the home remains the husband’s responsibility before YHWH. He must lead by example in church attendance, Bible reading, prayer, and spiritual disciplines. It is difficult for a Christian wife to respect her husband in other areas when he has not been consistent in leading her spiritually.

Both single and married men can benefit from the following traits of a Godly leader.

A leader is:

First a servant

Matthew 23:11 (KJV) But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

Teachable

Proverbs 19:20 (KJV) Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.

Filled with the Holy Spirit

Acts 6:3 (KJV) Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

Enthusiastic about his role

Ephesians 6:7 (KJV) With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men:

A model of humility and forgiveness

Psalms 66:10 (KJV) For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried.

Loving to those he leads

Matthew 5:46 (KJV) For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

These are not qualities to agree with.

They are evidence of whether you are functioning as a godly leader or not.

If these are absent in your life, your position as “head” becomes a title without substance.

Do not admire this description. Measure yourself against it.

If your home lacks spiritual direction, if your wife is carrying what you should be leading, if your family is not being guided in truth, then the issue is not unclear instruction.

It is neglected responsibility.

Ready to admit his failures and areas where he needs growth
Philippians 3:12 (KJV) Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ (יהושוע Jehoshua Hamashiach).

What follows is not a suggestion list.

It will expose whether you are actively leading or passively existing in your role.

Do not read it casually.

Do not answer these questions lightly.

Do not answer them in a way that protects your image.

Answer them as if YHWH Himself were asking you, because in truth, He is.

More specifically, a man can become a Godly husband by considering the following:

A quick answer will not help you.

An honest answer might correct you.

Does your schedule indicate that first YHWH, and second your family are top priority in time, energy, and focus?

Yes, or No?

If No, what do you think is stopping you from doing this and/or what can help you get this part better?

Are you heeding the counsel of 1 Peter 3:7 and really studying your wife?

Yes, or No?

If No, what do you think is stopping you from doing this and/or what can help you get this part better?

Some external resources may help with practical understanding, but they must always be tested against Scripture, as they are not fully reliable. Some outside resources may offer practical observations, but every teaching must be tested against Scripture.

Scripture remains the final authority regarding marriage, leadership, obedience, and covenant responsibility.

Are you taking the initiative to lead your wife spiritually by sharing the things YHWH is teaching you?

Yes, or No?

If No, what do you think is stopping you from doing this and/or what can help you get this part better?

Stop here for a moment.

Do not continue reading if you have already answered these without reflection.

If these areas are lacking, the issue is not lack of knowledge.

It is lack of obedience.

Do not move forward until you have dealt honestly with what has been exposed.

Are you sensitive to her physical state and sexual needs?

A godly husband does not use intimacy selfishly, manipulatively, or as a means of punishment, pressure, or control.

Yes, or No?

If No, what do you think is stopping you from doing this and/or what can help you get this part better?

Are you accepting equal responsibility for the children? Even if your wife is better at some aspects of parenting. Your children are your responsibility. Your wife needs a partner who willingly shares some of the load with her.

Yes, or No?

If No, what do you think is stopping you from doing this and/or what can help you get this part better?

Examine your tone of voice. Have you fallen into a habit of harshness, blame, or subtle disapproval?

Yes, or No?

If yes, what do you think is the cause of this and/or what can help you get this part corrected?

Do you ever resort to physical or verbal abuse in any form? If you need anger management help, get it.

Yes, or No?

If Yes, what do you think is the cause of this and/or what can help you get this part corrected?

In areas where your wife is weak, are you helping her to grow rather than criticizing or shutting down?

Yes, or No?

If No, what do you think is stopping you from doing this and/or what can help you get this part better?

Are you a good listener? If your wife cannot speak honestly without fear of anger, mockery, harshness, withdrawal, or escalation, then your leadership has become unsafe.

Yes, or No?

If No, what do you think is stopping you from doing this and/or what can help you get this part better?

Have your words, reactions, attitudes, and leadership strengthened your wife, or wounded her?

Does your behavior produce trust, stability, peace, and safety within the home, or fear, tension, confusion, and emotional distance?

Yes, or No?

If No, what do you think is stopping you from doing this and/or what can help you get this part better?

Men often measure themselves by externals, which are outside their control. Money, fame, physical ability, and power are fleeting and temporary. However, a husband can choose to define success by how well he has followed YHWH's command to cherish his wife and lead his family. A godly husband creates an environment of love, stability, truth, protection, and spiritual leadership within the home. While he is not responsible for the way his wife responds, every husband can control how well he is following "Christ" (יהושוע) Jehoshua Hamashiach) model in loving and leading the ones YHWH has entrusted to him.

If any of these are present in your life, do not minimize them. These are not small issues. They shape how your wife experiences your leadership. What you tolerate in yourself, she is forced to live under.

9- Are you remembering and keeping your wedding vows, which you took before YHWH, your husband, and the assembled witnesses?

Genesis 2:24 (KJV) Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. Matthew 19:5 (KJV) And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?

Whether the classic vows to love, and respect, or a self-written vow, the vows are binding in YHWH's eyes as long as you are married. Each day of the week, each moment of the day, you are either working to fulfill those vows, or you are breaking your commitment to them. Failure to keep the vows must be remedied by repentance and change, not excuses. Numbers 30:2-4 (KJV) If a man vow a vow unto the Lord, or swear an oath to bind his soul with a bond; he shall not break his word, he shall do according to all that proceedeth out of his mouth. 3 If a woman also vow a vow unto the Lord, and bind herself by a bond, being in her father's house in her youth; 4 And her father hear her vow, and her bond wherewith she hath bound her soul, and her father shall hold his peace at her; then all her vows shall stand, and every bond wherewith she hath bound her soul shall stand. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 (KJV) When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. 5 Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay.

Are you the leader of the home, or are you just winging it, while your wife takes charge of all including the spiritual growth in the home?

Or is she struggling to understand and follow your lack of commitment to YHWH and her?

We must respect and thank YHWH for all the Godly women who serve the Lord. Even though there are many women in our world who have had to provide spiritual leadership to their family; spiritual leadership in the home is a man's responsibility.

The man in the family, has an important obligation toward their family. Men are responsible to YHWH for the well-being of their family and also have a moral obligation to lead their family in spiritual matters.

It is very clear that Adam was created first. YHWH did this with intentionality. Genesis 2:7 (KJV) And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

The Lord YHWH formed the man first. Interestingly enough, even though Adam was created from dirt, YHWH expected everything from him.

Society has greatly weakened the biblical responsibility placed upon husbands and fathers.

This avoids opening unnecessary side arguments and keeps the focus on male accountability.

Adam is given the command to both work and to obey God in Genesis 2:15-17 (KJV) And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Two things immediately jump out of that verse. The first thing is that YHWH gave Adam a job before he gave Adam a wife. Adam was tending the garden before YHWH ever gave him a wife.

It doesn't matter how good looking you are, or how sweet you can talk, or how nice your dance moves are, or how dedicated you are to the gym. If you don't have a job, then you are not ready for a wife. But even then, having a job and providing for your family's physical needs does not meet all of YHWH's requirements.

Spiritual leadership in the home is also necessary and mandatory for men.

Secondly, YHWH gave Adam a command to obey. YHWH didn't command Eve in regard to what they should and should not eat. He told that to Adam. It is not that Eve was also not responsible for her actions. Obviously, she was because YHWH judged her as well. But it is apparent that Adam was primarily responsible because once the fruit was eaten. YHWH came looking for Adam! The spiritual leadership in the home was Adam's responsibility. And He is still doing the same today.

When something is out of order in your home, the question is not where your wife was, but where you were.

Notice whose name he calls in Genesis 3:9 (KJV) And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? He didn't call for Eve. No! he called the one he had given the responsibility to.

Many men have no idea what spiritual leadership in the home looks like.

Many men have never had this modeled for them.

Basically, a spiritual leader sets the tone within the family.

On church day he tells his family that they are going to church.

On bible study days he either takes his family to bible studies or he sits and leads a study with them.

His children see him reading the Word of YHWH and spending time in prayer. Spiritual leadership in the home is modeled at church when a man raises his hand to YHWH in worship, kneels at the altar to pray, and participates in ministry.

The spiritual climate of the home is set when a man decides to put YHWH first in his treasures, such as family, time and money.

Spiritual leadership in the home is seen when a man says we are going to change the channel because this movie isn't appropriate. It is seen when the dad makes sure that he is providing his kids with biblical education and instruction. It is the man's responsibility to show his family what servant leadership is all

about. That means that sometimes the man needs to pick up the vacuum, do the dishes and do it all with joy because he wants his family to be a spiritual family. It is the man's responsibility to honor his wife verbally and other ways.

If there is spiritual leadership in the home, a wife never needs to worry about her husband embarrassing her for a moral indiscretion, and the kids feel safe and secure because dad has made a commitment to the family to be there for them.

Biblical headship is not permission for domination, selfish control, fear, intimidation, or harshness.

A husband who leads through anger, manipulation, fear, pride, or emotional instability is no longer reflecting Christ in his leadership.

Real spiritual leadership in the home wouldn't act in such a way.

In fact, nowhere in the Bible does it say that a man can demand submission from his wife.

Nowhere in the Bible does it say that, but it does have some very clear instructions to men. It's a full-time job actually.

Your obedience before YHWH cannot depend on whether your wife responds perfectly.

Her failures do not excuse yours.

Is that going to stop you from being obedient to YHWH and showing your love to her? How about this, Colossians 3:19 (KJV)
Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them

We said it once and will say it again. Her changing or not, does not excuse you from becoming a godly husband. Her actions whether they help you or tear you down, should not stop you from becoming all that YHWH created you to be!

Stop listening to your heart and start being obedient to God!
Your feelings are not your authority. If your obedience changes with your emotions, then your obedience is not established.

If you are having problems with your feelings, see study B2-C01-S08- Why Feelings Cannot Be Trusted for Salvation.

10- Loving your wife.

Ephesians 5 gives us the description of a godly husband. Verse 25 says,

Ephesians 5:25 (KJV) Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it;

So, ask yourself plainly:

Is your wife strengthened by your love, or burdened by your neglect?

Because one of those is already true.

This comparison with Christ and the church says a great deal.

Husbands are to show sacrificial, unconditional love for their

wives in the same way that “Christ” (יהושוע) Jehoshua Hamashiach) sacrificed Himself for those who believe in Him.

Ephesians 5:28 (KJV) So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

Our culture has taught us that sex and love are one and the same.

This is a lie. Sex is a beautiful YHWH-given gift that is wonderful when practiced within the boundaries of a marriage. Sex is the completion of the binding of two people within marriage.

Proverbs 5:18-19 (KJV) Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth. 19 Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love.

Hebrews 13:4 (KJV) Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

Men usually have no problem loving their own bodies. Sexual fulfillment, muscular prowess, and other physical needs are often top priorities. YHWH is instructing husbands to give their wives the same priority that they give those physical needs. “Christ” (יהושוע) Jehoshua Hamashiach) willingly subjected His own body to abuse, humiliation, and needs for the sake of His bride, the church. That is the model this Scripture gives for husbands to follow.

11- Have you cut the cord?

Parents and friends can be of great help, or they can tilt a man in the wrong direction in a weak moment, especially when they are blind to his faults or biased in his favor. But marriage is not meant to be governed by outside voices. Issues of marriage are often best kept between husband and wife, not carried outward for validation, sympathy, or reinforcement.

Psalm 45:10 (KJV) Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house;

Matthew 19:6 (KJV) Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

When you entered into marriage, you did not bring your former life with you as your guiding authority. You left it. Not physically alone, but in loyalty, in priority, and in order. Your wife is no longer second to your parents, your friends, or your past. She is now your covenant companion, the one you are joined to before YHWH.

A man who has not cut the cord will often still think like a son first and a husband second. He runs to others with his frustrations. He allows outside opinions to shape how he sees his wife. He compares, complains, or seeks agreement instead of leading, covering, and dealing with matters within the covenant. And without realizing it, he invites division into what was meant to be one.

This does not mean you dishonor your parents. It does not mean you cut off wise counsel completely. But it does mean that no outside voice should carry more weight than the covenant you have entered. No relationship should interfere with the unity you are commanded to protect.

If you allow your parents, your friends, or any outside influence to regularly speak into your marriage in a way that weakens your unity, then you have not truly left.

And if you have not left, you cannot fully cleave.

A man who has not fully cleaved to his wife will struggle to lead her rightly, because part of his loyalty is still divided.

So ask yourself plainly:

Have you truly left in heart, in loyalty, and in order?
Or are you still allowing your past to shape your present?

Because what you refuse to separate from will eventually interfere with what you are called to build.

12- Knowing and honoring your wife.

1 Peter 3:7 (KJV) Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

This is why a husband must intentionally make time to know his wife, not casually, but deliberately. The answer is found for us in the last part of 1 Peter 3:7, “that your prayers be not hindered.” Note, this would have been a radical idea in Peter's era.

Particularly in comparison to modern society, women of this time period were often oppressed, discounted, and treated as lesser. Various forms of submission to husbands were already common. However, the command that men must honor their wives, as equal co-heirs of God's grace through faith in Christ, was not cultural, it was corrective. It elevated responsibility, not privilege. It required the man to answer before God for how he treats the woman joined to him.

The term “weaker vessel” has often been misunderstood. It does not imply inferiority, since the verse continues by stating that a woman is a co-heir to salvation with her husband. Within the context of this verse, “weaker” means that a woman is not to be treated as “one of the guys.” She was created differently, in both body and soul. “Understanding” is key.

A husband must study his wife, learn who she is, and make choices that highlight her strengths and beauty.

Physical confrontation, verbal bullying, and emotional neglect have no place in a Christian marriage.

To live with her in an understanding way means that a wise husband controls his own needs and desires so that hers are met. He does not belittle her, minimize her contributions to the family, or expect her to do what YHWH has given him to do.

He makes the study of one woman a lifetime endeavor, and he wants to be an expert at it.

13- Do you handle disagreements in a loving, God-honoring way?

Do you love your wife in your heart, in how you think of her?

Ephesians 5:33 (KJV) Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself;

Do you imagine that a feigned outward formal love, thinly veiling a bitter, resentful, belittling heart, is pleasing to YHWH?

Or can you dream that such an attitude will bear other than bitter fruit in your marriage? Proverbs 4:23 (KJV) Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Matt. 15:18-20 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. 19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: 20 These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashed hands defileth not a man. That being the case, Do you listen carefully before reacting, correcting, accusing, or dismissing?

Do you approach differences with her cautiously and humbly in your thinking, or brashly and arrogantly?

Do you give any prominence in your thinking to the possibility that you might be mistaken?

Do you magnify your wife's strengths and godly traits, or do you exaggerate even tiny flaws and upsets? 1 Cor. 13:4-5 (KJV) Charity (love) suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

Do you give her the benefit of a doubt, or do you "shoot first and ask questions later," or never? 1 Cor. 13:7 (KJV) Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

Do you "declare war" easily or seldom or never? 1 Cor. 13:5 (KJV) Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Eph. 4:2 (KJV) With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love. James 3:17 (KJV) But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

14- Have you given your wife grounds so that her heart can trust in you, and that she can be confident that you will do her good and not evil all the days of your life (Prov. 31:11, 12)?

Does she have reason to be sure of your love, your support, your friendliness, your companionship, your leadership, all those things you promised her when you married her (Gen. 2:18, 24, 25; Prov. 2:17)?

Or must she always be on guard, fearful of the next conflict?

Can she concentrate on moving forward, or must she ever guard her flank, fearing your next assault?

Does your presence bring stability, safety, peace, and trust into your home, or tension, fear, instability, and emotional exhaustion?

You must rule over your wife.

You are given authority over your wife, and you will answer YHWH has placed the husband as head of the home under His authority.

This is not permission for domination, pride, selfishness, or control.

Biblical headship is responsibility before it is authority.

You are called to lead your wife the same way Christ leads His people, through sacrifice, truth, patience, holiness, and obedience to the Father.before God for how you lead her. Genesis 3:16 (KJV) Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

You are the head of your wife, and Christ is your head.
1 Corinthians 11:3 (KJV) But I would have you know that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.

15- Can a man divorce his wife?

So, this one you must answer it yourself.

Matthew 19:7-8 (KJV) They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away?
8 He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so.

The following is commanded by the Lord.

1 Cor 7:10-11 (KJV) And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband: 11 But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife.

A man can divorce his wife only in the event of fornication!

Matthew 5:9 (KJV) And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.

Matthew 5: 32 (KJV) But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.

The following is said by Paul, not by God.

1 Cor 7:12 (KJV) But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away.

Can you divorce your wife?

YES, or NO?

And if you can, what are the circumstances on which you can divorce her?

Marriage Foundation and Unity

The creation of marriage is recorded in Genesis 2:23-24 (KJV): "And Adam said, this is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore, shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." YHWH created man and then made woman to complement him. Marriage is YHWH's "fix" for the fact that "It is not good that the man should be alone" (Genesis 2:18).

This union of a man and woman into Biblical marriage is different than any other relationship. It is different than anything in the animal kingdom because the woman was taken out of the man by the creative hand of YHWH. This union is different than any other relationship among humans because it is the result of YHWH creating a helper to be fitting, suitable, and adapted to him.

Scripture describes a wife as a covenant companion and helper joined to her husband by YHWH.

This avoids redirecting the husband into evaluating women again. Proverbs 18:22 (KJV) Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD.

Scripture also says that a wife is to be her husband's companion, to work alongside him in the work the Lord has set them to, and the raising up of the next generation of believers. Genesis 2:20 (KJV) And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

The word "helper" used to describe Eve in Genesis 2:20 means "To aid; to assist, help." Eve was created to be alongside Adam as his "other half," to be his aid and his helper. A man and woman, when married, become "one flesh." This oneness is manifested most fully in the physical union of sexual intimacy.

The biblical description of helper is translated more as “strong helper”. This is not a description of weakness but of strength.

Because of this special kind of relationship, there is a special requirement for the man to leave his family and cleave unto his wife. This doesn't reject the responsibility that a child has to love and honor their parents (Ephesians 6:2), but it puts a special importance on putting the wife first: emotionally, physically, and especially spiritually. This commandment is only given to the husband because the husband is supposed to give himself in sacrificial love to his wife. It is not given to wives, who often maintain emotional and physical ties with their own families.

The requirement to cleave unto your wife isn't just contrasted to leaving your family. The Hebrew word for cleave also can be translated as union, bond, or join. It means to stick together like skin and bone.

Therefore, we see that this special kind of relationship requires a special kind of union that is only acquired when the husband leaves everything else in comparison to how he cleaves unto his wife. This does not mean the man gives up hobbies, sports, and career. But it means he cleaves unto his wife more than anything else.

The New Testament adds a warning regarding this oneness. "Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." (Matthew 19:6 KJV).

God wants couples to unify by becoming one flesh in marriage and tells us about the type of unity He expects in marriage:

Psalm 45:10 (KJV) Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house;

Ephesians 5:31 (KJV) For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

Mark 10:7-9 (KJV) For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; 8 And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh. 9 What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

When a husband and wife come together in marriage, this new relationship must take precedent over all other earthly relationships. Before they were married their greatest earthly relationship was hopefully with their parents and now it must be with each other.

There are three important concepts about this unity in marriage that Christ talks about:

“And they twain SHALL be one flesh”

“so then they ARE NO MORE twain, but one flesh”

“What therefore God hath joined together, let NOT man put asunder.”

Biblically speaking in marriage, a husband and wife are one flesh from the moment of their marriage covenant, yet they are to be becoming one flesh more and more the longer they are married and they are not to stop being one flesh as long as they both live.

In a way, this concept of being one flesh in marriage mirrors our salvation. From the moment we believe, all the way until we receive salvation. But the Bible tells us in Galatians 5:25 (KJV) If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. exhorting us to progressive sanctification. In essence the Bible is telling us “You are to be holy, so be holy”. As a husband, you are commanded to protect, preserve, and pursue unity within your marriage rather

than damaging it through selfishness, neglect, harshness, pride, or passivity.

YHWH is not a fan of divorce nor is He a fan of sexual immorality. This Bible verse about husbands and wives discusses the importance of keeping a relationship together. Matthew 5:32 (KJV) But I say unto you, that whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.

There are several letters written by the apostle Paul that refer to marriage and how believers are to operate within the marriage relationship. One such passage is 1 Corinthians chapter 7, and another is in Ephesians 5:14-33. When studied together, these two passages provide biblical principles that form a framework for a God-pleasing marriage.

Do not speak about unity as if it is distant.

The condition of your marriage already reveals whether you are pursuing it or neglecting it.

1 Corinthians 7:1-40 (KJV)

Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman.

2 Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.

3 Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband.

4 The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.

5 Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.

6 But I speak this by permission, and not of commandment.

7 For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that.

8 I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I.

9 But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn.

10 And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband:

11 But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife.

12 But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away.

13 And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him.

14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy.

15 But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace.

16 For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save thy husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?

17 But as God hath distributed to every man, as the Lord hath called every one, so let him walk. And so ordain I in all churches.

18 Is any man called being circumcised? let him not become uncircumcised. Is any called in uncircumcision? let him not be circumcised.

19 Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of God.

20 Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called.

21 Art thou called being a servant? care not for it: but if thou mayest be made free, use it rather.

22 For he that is called in the Lord, being a servant, is the Lord's freeman: likewise also he that is called, being free, is Christ's servant.

23 Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.

24 Brethren, let every man, wherein he is called, therein abide with God.

25 Now concerning virgins I have no commandment of the Lord: yet I give my judgment, as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful.

26 I suppose therefore that this is good for the present distress, I say, that it is good for a man so to be.

27 Art thou bound unto a wife? seek not to be loosed. Art thou loosed from a wife? seek not a wife.

28 But and if thou marry, thou hast not sinned; and if a virgin marry, she hath not sinned. Nevertheless such shall have trouble in the flesh: but I spare you.

29 But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they had none;

30 And they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not;

31 And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away.

32 But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord:

33 But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife.

34 There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband.

35 And this I speak for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you, but for that which is comely, and that ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction.

36 But if any man think that he behaveth himself uncomely toward his virgin, if she pass the flower of her age, and need so require, let him do what he will, he sinneth not: let them marry.
37 Nevertheless he that standeth stedfast in his heart, having no necessity, but hath power over his own will, and hath so decreed in his heart that he will keep his virgin, doeth well.
38 So then he that giveth her in marriage doeth well; but he that giveth her not in marriage doeth better.
39 The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord.
40 But she is happier if she so abide, after my judgment: and I think also that I have the Spirit of God.

Ephesians 5:14-33 (KJV)

Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;

14 Wherefore he saith, awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.

15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,

16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

17 Wherefore be ye not unwise but understanding what the will of the Lord is.

18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord:

20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord “Christ” (יהושוע) Jehoshua Hamashiach);

21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

Roles in Marriage

The husband is not merely commanded to lead.
He is commanded to die to himself.

That alone should stop a husband in his tracks. Scripture does not place a light requirement on the man. It does not tell him merely to be pleasant, to provide money, or to say loving words from time to time. It calls him to a kind of love that costs him something. It calls him to a love that lays itself down, and that is why the foundation must be stated clearly from the beginning.

The foundation is this:

Ephesians 5:25, “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her”

That one line alone destroys most weak definitions of “love.” It strips away the world’s shallow ideas and replaces them with God’s standard. Biblical love is not talk without sacrifice. It is not emotion without obedience. It is not affection without responsibility. The husband is not called to love in a way that is easy for him, but in a way that reflects Christ.

That means, first of all, that he sacrifices himself, not her. Ephesians 5:25 shows that clearly. This is not “I love you” with words. This is her good over his comfort. It means he gives up convenience for her well-being. It means he does what is right, not what is easy. It means he carries weight instead of shifting it onto her. If he constantly chooses himself first, he is already out of alignment. A man may still call that love, but Scripture will not.

This kind of love also means that he leads, he does not abandon responsibility.

Ephesians 5:23 teaches that headship is not control, it is accountability before God. That means love is seen in making decisions when needed, taking responsibility when things go wrong, and not hiding behind passivity. A passive man forces his wife to step into a role she was never meant to carry. Many men

want the position of headship, but they do not want the burden of it. Yet biblical headship is never about demanding to be followed. It is about answering before God for how you led.

The same love also requires that he nourishes and cares for her. Ephesians 5:28–29 says that a man is to love his wife as his own body. “Nourish” means he invests into her emotionally, physically, and spiritually. So love asks a painful but necessary question: Is she stronger, healthier, and closer to God because of me? If a husband’s presence leaves his wife weaker, more burdened, more spiritually neglected, or emotionally starved, then whatever he is calling love, it is falling short of what Scripture means by it.

Biblical love also shows itself in the way a husband treats his wife’s dignity. He honors her, not belittles her.

1 Peter 3:7 speaks of “showing honor to the wife.” That means no insults, no humiliation, and no treating her as lesser. A man who cuts down his wife is working against himself. He may think he is winning an argument, establishing control, or exposing weakness, but what he is really doing is dishonoring what God joined to him. Honor must be heard in his voice, seen in his attitude, and felt in the way he handles her weaknesses.

That is why Scripture also says that he lives with understanding. Again, 1 Peter 3:7 places this before him. Love pays attention. He learns her, he listens, and he adjusts. That is the positive side. The negative side is also clear: not dismissing her feelings, not ignoring her voice, and not acting like she is a problem to tolerate. A husband who refuses to understand his wife usually ends up injuring her in the very places where he was supposed to care for her. To dwell with her according to knowledge is not merely to know facts about her, but to study her heart, her patterns, her burdens, and her needs as a lifelong calling.

This also means that he is not harsh or bitter toward her. Colossians 3:19 says, “do not be harsh with them.” That strikes directly at how many men fail. No intimidation. No anger used as

control. No cold withdrawal as punishment. Harshness is not leadership; it is weakness wearing authority. Some men think harshness proves strength. It does not. It proves that they are not governing themselves well. A godly husband may be firm, but he is never cruel. He may correct, but he does not crush.

Nor is biblical love merely outwardly clean while inwardly corrupt. He is faithful in mind and body.

Hebrews 13:4 guards the marriage bed, and Matthew 5:28 shows that the issue reaches into the heart. Love is not flirting outside, not entertaining other women, not dividing his loyalty. Even inwardly, lust itself is a betrayal of covenant. A man does not have to commit physical adultery to begin betraying his marriage. He can do that in his imagination, in his eyes, and in the secret toleration of desires that God condemns. Biblical faithfulness is whole faithfulness.

Before a husband can lead anything well, he must also be a man who is under rule himself. He disciplines himself before trying to lead her.

1 Timothy 3:2–5 makes that plain. If he cannot rule his own spirit, he is not fit to lead a home. That means self-control, consistency, and integrity. A man out of control cannot lead anything properly. If anger rules him, if lust rules him, if pride rules him, if laziness rules him, then he is not leading, he is simply being dragged by whatever master he has not crucified.

Love must also be protective in nature. He protects, not exposes her.

This includes emotional safety, physical safety, and spiritual protection. He does not expose her weaknesses publicly. He does not use her vulnerabilities against her. He does not leave her unguarded while claiming authority. Protection is not only about danger from outside. Sometimes the husband himself becomes the danger by the way he speaks, reacts, mocks, or reveals what should have been covered with wisdom and love. A godly husband does not make his wife regret trusting him.

And at the heart of all of it, he washes her with the Word. Ephesians 5:26 shows that this is spiritual leadership. It is not just going to church occasionally. It is guiding the home in truth, speaking what is right, and correcting with patience, not domination. A husband is not called to be spiritually passive while still expecting spiritual order in his home. He must live under the Word himself, handle it faithfully, and bring its truth into the home without pride, laziness, or tyranny.

So, the blunt truth is this:

Most men want respect while refusing the standard of love Scripture requires.

But look at the weight of what God has said:
She is told to respect.
He is told to die daily for her good.

That is no small matter. That command crushes every selfish version of husband hood. It tears down every excuse built on stress, disappointment, personality, or feelings. If a man is harsh, passive, selfish, lustful, or careless, he is not lacking feelings, he is failing his command.

Now there is balance in God's design. When a man truly loves like this, respect becomes natural. When a woman truly respects, love becomes easier. But neither is optional. Both are commanded. Yet the husband must never look at that balance and use it to shift his focus onto her responsibility. His first concern must remain his own obedience before God.

That is why the husband must ask himself not, "Is she doing her part?" but, "Am I loving her the way Christ commanded me to love her?" That is the question that exposes him. That is the question that humbles him. And that is the question that keeps this teaching from becoming another list of demands laid on someone else.

Some steps to becoming one flesh in marriage.

A husband and wife are to have sexual intimacy on a regular basis or at least as long as one of them desires it.

1 Corinthians 7:3-4 (KJV) Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. 4 The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.”

The act of marriage or the consummation of marriage is sexual union. This is the most literal meaning of the Biblical phrase “one flesh”. Sex is to be a natural occurrence in marriage. An interesting biological fact of sex is that it releases two bonding hormones (oxytocin and vasopressin) which YHWH designed to draw a couple closer together.

On this subject of sexual relations in marriage Christian and non-Christian counselors are usually in fully agreement. The regularity of sexual relations is the first indicator of how healthy a relationship is. While it is possible to have regular sexual relations but still have conflict in a marriage, it is impossible to have full unity in a marriage without regular relations.

Sexual Intimacy apart from procreation, it is also intended to help avoid the temptation of fornication (sexual intercourse between people not married to each other).

1 Corinthians 7:2 (KJV) Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.

A husband is to know his wife.

Deuteronomy 24:5 (KJV) When a man hath taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war, neither shall he be charged with any business: but he shall be free at home one year, and shall cheer up his wife which he hath taken.

YHWH literally forbade men from going off to war or going away on business trips for the first year of their marriage.

When a man hears the concerns and requests of his wife and truly knows how she thinks, even if he does not act as she would like after hearing her, this helps build unity in the marriage.

Also, when a husband knows his wife, he knows her passions and her interests. As long as her interests do not conflict with her primary duties as a wife, mother, and keeper of the home he should encourage her in these things. For example, maybe his wife likes to paint or maybe she has desire to write for a woman's blog, or she likes to write poetry. Perhaps she has a desire to run in home daycare. None of these things would automatically contradict with her primary duties as a wife, mother, and keeper of the home.

However, if a woman has a passion to be out of the home for example to be an airplane hostess, then her passions and ambitions are at direct odds with the role for which YHWH designed her to be. This is by definition an example of a selfish ambition on the part of a woman.

What is missing from Biblical unity that the world says marriage needs?

There is a word that you may have noticed that is missing from all the Biblical advice on unity that has just been given. That word is Commitment.

The world teaches that unity in marriage is all about a man and woman compromising with each other. “I will give in to you on this and you will give into me on that.” Now don’t get me wrong, when it comes to things that have nothing to do with YHWH and what He requires of us, compromise in marriage is a good thing. Like when we choose where we go to dinner, that is not necessarily a moral decision. How much is spent on dinner may be a moral decision, but whether we have a hamburger or pizza it is not.

But in most cases what we call compromise on these non-moral things is just us being selfless and putting the other person first and that is a good thing.

But when it comes to moral decisions, including financial decisions, career decisions, what church is attended, religious beliefs, discipline and teaching of the children, decisions about sex and other things like this there can be no compromise. A husband is always called by YHWH to do what he believes is right before YHWH. A husband should hear his wife and know how she feels. But knowing how his wife feels and compromising on moral issues with her are two very different things.

After letting the truth of this introduction on the unity of marriage penetrate your heart, you now need to follow up on reading Study 02 “A Godly Husband” (Primarily for the husband to read and study in private) and Study 03 “A Godly wife” (Primarily for the wife to read and study in private).

This marriage study is intended to work in three parts. First, the husband and wife are to read this booklet together so they can receive the same foundation regarding Biblical marriage, unity, roles, and responsibility. Then, after finishing this booklet, the husband is to read and study “A Godly Husband” privately, and the wife is to read and study “A Godly Wife” privately.

These two personal studies are meant to be read separately and studied individually, not so that each spouse can learn what to correct in the other, but so that each one may focus fully on what YHWH is requiring of them personally. The purpose is to remove unnecessary expectations from each other and to keep both husband and wife from turning these studies into tools of correction, accusation, pressure, or disappointment.

In other words, the husband should focus on becoming the husband YHWH has called him to be, and the wife should focus on becoming the wife YHWH has called her to be. Instead of watching for what the other has not yet changed, each one should search their own heart, repent where needed, and apply the truth to themselves.

For this reason, it is wise that both keep these personal studies private while they are reading and working through them. This can help prevent broken expectations, arguments, discouragement, resentment, or the temptation to use truth as a weapon against one another. The goal is not secrecy for its own sake, but humility, self-examination, and personal obedience before God.

So, I suggest keeping this private reading and learning everything and do not worry about your spouse's part in the unity of your marriage. Worry only about your responsibility. Once you read it, you both may decide whether you want to show each other on what you guys are working to change to become a godly husband and godly wife.

****PART B - The Consequences of Neglected Headship****

Do not read what follows as theory.

Read it as the possible result of your own conduct.

What you have studied so far shows what YHWH requires of you as a husband.

Now you must understand what your disobedience can produce.

A man's failure does not remain contained within himself. It does not stay hidden. It produces fruit, and that fruit does not only affect him. It reaches into the heart of his wife, into the minds of his children, and into the atmosphere of his home.

Whether you see it or not, your obedience or your neglect is already shaping what your home feels like.

When a husband becomes passive, something begins to shift inside his wife. What was meant to be a place of security becomes a place of uncertainty. She may begin to feel alone in decisions, burdened with responsibility she was never meant to carry, and unsure of the direction of the home. Over time, this can produce frustration, emotional exhaustion, and even a quiet loss of respect. She may still function, still serve, still continue, but inwardly she is carrying weight that was never assigned to her.

When a husband is harsh, the effect goes deeper than words. A woman who is spoken to with anger, constant correction, or subtle disapproval does not feel led, she feels unsafe. Over time, this can produce fear, guardedness, and emotional withdrawal. She may stop speaking freely. She may measure her words. She may close parts of her heart, not out of rebellion, but out of protection. What could have been a place of openness becomes a place where she must be careful.

When a husband does not listen, the damage is quieter, but just as real. A wife who is not heard begins to feel unseen. She may begin

to believe that her thoughts, concerns, and feelings do not matter. This produces loneliness inside the marriage. Not the loneliness of being physically alone, but the loneliness of being emotionally disconnected. Over time, she may stop trying to share, not because she has nothing to say, but because she believes it will not be received.

When a husband lives selfishly, always choosing his own comfort, time, and priorities, something begins to wear down inside his wife. She may begin to feel used rather than valued. She may carry the responsibilities of the home while receiving little support. This produces weariness, and where weariness is left unaddressed, resentment begins to grow. Not always loudly, but steadily.

When a husband is spiritually absent, the effect reaches into the deepest part of the home. A wife may begin to feel spiritually unsupported, even if she continues seeking YHWH on her own. She may feel like she is walking alone in something that was meant to be shared. This can produce discouragement, confusion in direction, and a sense that the home lacks covering. The children also feel this, even if they cannot explain it. The home may function, but it lacks spiritual strength.

When a husband is unfaithful, whether in action or in heart, the damage cuts deeply. A woman may begin to question her worth, her security, and the stability of the marriage. This can produce insecurity, distrust, and broken intimacy. Even what is hidden does not remain without consequence. What a man tolerates in secret will eventually affect what is visible.

And when a husband refuses responsibility, when he shifts blame, avoids correction, or justifies himself instead of examining himself, the entire home begins to feel the tension. A wife may feel like nothing ever truly changes. Problems repeat. Conflict remains unresolved. This produces frustration, emotional distance, and in many cases, a slow hardening of the heart.

Now hear this carefully.

These responses in a woman do not remove her accountability before YHWH.

But this study is not about her accountability.

It is about yours.

If any of these things are present in your home, do not begin by examining her.

Do not begin by correcting her.

Do not begin by measuring what she is doing or failing to do.

You must first stand before YHWH and ask:

Am I walking in obedience as a husband?

Because many men are living inside the very conditions their own disobedience has helped produce, while blaming the person who is reacting to it.

Do not resist that truth if it confronts you.

Do not explain it away.

Do not redirect it.

If conviction is present, that is not the problem. That is the doorway to correction.

Repent.

Correct what must be corrected.

Return to obedience.

Then continue.

**Now continue, not as a husband comparing yourself to your
wife,**

but as a man standing before YHWH, answering for what has
been entrusted to him.

Do not continue merely to gather knowledge.

Continue only if you are willing to receive correction, confront
yourself honestly, and obey what YHWH exposes through His
word.

Because what follows is not simply information.

It is examination before God.





