


# The Role of the Husband

The "L" Words



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## The Biblical Husband is a **LEARNER**

- ✿ **LIVE** with your wife
  - ✿ You are not inherently superior in personhood to your wife
  - ✿ You are to live in close harmony and in alignment with your wife in your home
- ✿ **KNOW** your wife
  - ✿ Live with her in accordance with her makeup and character
  - ✿ Live with her, recognizing that she is a weaker vessel




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## The Biblical Husband is a Learner

*"The wife was made of the husband's rib; not of his head, for Paul calls the husband the wife's head; not of the foot, for he must not set her at his foot. The servant is appointed to serve, and the wife to help. If she must not match with the head, nor stoop at the foot, where shall he set her then? He must set her at his heart, and therefore she which should lie in his bosom was made in his bosom." [Puritan Henry Smith.]*




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## The Biblical Husband is a Learner

- ✿ **HONOR** your wife
- ✿ Pay respect to and give value to her
- ✿ Pay respect to your wife because you will obstruct your own spiritual life if you don't




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## The Biblical Husband is a Learner

*"Show her that you value her company, and prefer being at home to being out. Esteem her in the presence of your friends and children. Praise and show admiration for her good acts; and if she ever does anything foolish, advise her patiently.*

*"Pray together at home and go to church; when you come back home, let each ask the other the meaning of the [Scripture] readings and prayers. Remind one another that nothing in life is to be feared, except offending God...."*




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## The Biblical Husband is a Learner

*"...Finally, never call her by her name alone, but with terms of endearment, honor, and love. If you honor her, she won't need honor from others; she won't desire praise from others if she enjoys the praise that comes from you.*

*Prefer her before all others, both for her beauty and her discernment, and praise her."*

*[John Chrysostom]*




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## The Biblical Husband is a LEADER

### ✿ What Godly Leadership is Not:

- ✿ A godly leader is not a DICTATOR (Mt. 20:25)
- ✿ A godly leader does not DEMAND submission
- ✿ A godly leader does not "EXPECT" his wife to serve him
- ✿ A godly leader does not FORCE his wife to accept his opinions and preferences
- ✿ A godly leader's home is not a "CASTLE" and he is not king of a kingdom. He's a servant leader.




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## The Biblical Husband is a Leader

### ✿ What Godly Leadership is Not:

- ✿ A godly leader is not a passive FOLLOWER
- ✿ His wife may be a NATURAL leader
- ✿ His wife may be a "SUBVERSIVE" leader (Gen. 3:16)
- ✿ His calling and position is not to FOLLOW (1 Cor. 11:3, 7-9; Eph. 5:23-24)




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## The Biblical Husband is a Leader

### ✿ What Godly Leadership *Is*:

- ✿ He IS the leader
- ✿ He focuses on CHRIST (Eph. 5:23; 6:4)
- ✿ He is SPIRITUALLY-Oriented (Eph. 5:26-28; 1 Tim. 3:2, 4-5)
- ✿ He is a DISCIPLER (1 Cor. 14:35; 1 Tim. 2:11-12)
- ✿ He is SELF-CONTROLLED (Phil. 4:8-9)
- ✿ He cultivates JOY in his home (Eccl. 9:9; Prov. 5:18)
- ✿ He is a spiritual EXAMPLE worth following (1 Cor. 11:1)




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## The Biblical Husband is a Leader

*"A famous cigarette billboard pictures a curly-headed, bronze-faced, muscular macho with a cigarette hanging out the side of his mouth. The sign says, 'Where a man belongs.' That is a lie. Where a man belongs is at the bedside of his children, leading in devotion and prayer. Where a man belongs is leading his family to the house of God. Where a man belongs is up early and alone with God seeking vision and direction for his family." [John Piper, Desiring God]*




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## The Biblical Husband is a Leader

### ✦ What Godly Leadership Is:

- ✦ He **IS** the leader
- ✦ He focuses on **CHRIST** (Eph. 5:23; 6:4)
- ✦ He is **SPIRITUALLY**-Oriented (Eph. 5:26-28; 1 Tim. 3:2, 4-5)
- ✦ He is a **DISCIPLER** (1 Cor. 14:35; 1 Tim. 2:11-12)
- ✦ He is **SELF-CONTROLLED** (Phil. 4:8-9)
- ✦ He cultivates **JOY** in his home (Ecc. 9:9; Prov. 5:18)
- ✦ He is a spiritual **EXAMPLE** worth following (1 Cor. 11:1)
- ✦ He is **"OTHER"**-Oriented (Phil. 2:3-4)




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## The Biblical Husband is a Leader

*"Unlike Adam, Christ killed the dragon to get the girl. And he killed the dragon by dying himself. When he saw his bride heading down the broad road to destruction what did he do? He didn't blame, he bled. He didn't damn, he died. He didn't gripe and grumble and groan. Instead he gladly and graciously gave himself up for her, that he might purify and beautify his bride." [Parnell and Strachan, Designed For Joy]*




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## The Biblical Husband is a LOVER

- ✿ Biblical love defined:
  - ✿ What biblical love is not:
    - ✿ Biblical love is not PHYSICAL/SEXUAL love
    - ✿ Biblical love is not "ROMANTIC" love
    - ✿ Biblical love is not EMOTIONAL love
    - ✿ Biblical love is not FEELINGS
  - ✿ What biblical love is: "Love is a commitment of my WILL and AFFECTIONS to your needs and best interests REGARDLESS of the cost to me, as an expression of my love for CHRIST."




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## The Biblical Husband is a Lover

- ✿ What biblical love is —
  - ✿ A commitment of WILL
  - ✿ A commitment of AFFECTIONS
  - ✿ A commitment to NEEDS and best interests
  - ✿ A commitment REGARDLESS
  - ✿ A commitment that is derived from the GOSPEL




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## The Biblical Husband is a Lover

- ✿ Biblical love applied:
  - ✿ The husband TELLS his wife he loves her (in word and action)
  - ✿ The husband ENCOURAGES his wife with all his words (Eph. 4:31-32; 1 Pt. 3:7)
  - ✿ The husband PRIORITIZES his wife in all things (1 Cor. 7:33-35)
  - ✿ The husband provides MATERIALLY for his wife (1 Tim. 5:8)




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## The Biblical Husband is a Lover

✿ Biblical love applied:

- ✿ The husband loves her the way he loves **HIMSELF** (Eph. 5:28-29)
- ✿ The husband loves his wife by **INITIATING** love




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## The Biblical Husband is a Lover

*"When there isn't enough love in the marriage, one place for husband to look [is] in the mirror."*

*[Wayne Mack]*

*"Is your wife more like Christ because of you, or in spite of you?" [Kent Hughes]*




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## The Biblical Husband is a Lover

✿ Biblical love applied:

- ✿ The husband loves her the way he loves **HIMSELF** (Eph. 5:28-29)
- ✿ The husband loves his wife by **INITIATING** love
- ✿ The husband loves by **DELIGHTING** in her (Eccl. 9:9)




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## The Biblical Husband is a Lover

*"A man who does not take particular and tender care of his wife, and who then expects her to be fruitful and lovely, is not being a true husband at all; he is a dolt — the Greek word for this is probably meathead. He must not expect anything but weeds unless he tends the garden with extraordinary care."*

*[Douglas Wilson, Reforming Marriage]*




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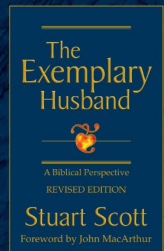
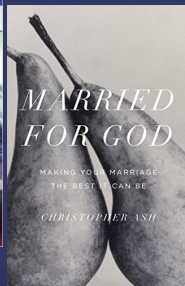
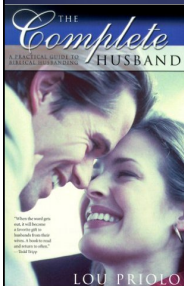
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## Resources




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