

“Marriage & The Bible”
Marriage, How To Correct It
The Husband’s Duty (A)
Ephesians 5:25-33
Pt. 6

Introduction - “Marriage is a divine institution. It is also “The first and foundational institution which means that all other institutions are in one way or another built upon it.”

God designed marriage to be one man and one woman, each having a duty to fulfill!

Last week, **“The Wife’s Duty.”**

1. Love your husband.
2. Submit to your husband.
3. Respect your husband.

But the husband also has a duty; a part he must play; just as the different parts in music combine to produce harmony, so when each partner in a marriage is faithful to fulfill their own responsibility, the results will be beautiful harmony, joy, and blessedness!

What is the husband’s duty toward his wife?

1. To love her sincerely.
2. To dwell with her understandingly.
3. To honor her highly.

I. Husbands, Love Your Wife Sincerely

How amazing for the time and culture! The amazing word Paul used for love, “agape.”

It’s a present active imperative. So husbands are commanded to agape their wives at all times and in all situations.

What does it really mean to love your wife?

It’s not a passing emotion, it’s a continual devotion.

It’s not a feeling, see I Cor. 13.

Fourteen Qualities:

1. Love is "*patient.*"
2. Love is "*kind.*"
3. Love is not "*jealous.*"
4. Love is not "*boastful*" or "*proud.*"
5. Love is not "*rude.*"
6. Love does not "*demand it's own way.*"
7. Love is not "*irritable.*"
8. Love "*keeps no record of when it has been wrongs.*"
9. Love "*is never glad about injustice, but rejoices whenever the truth wins out.*"
10. Love "*never gives up.*"
11. Love "*never loses faith.*"
12. Love "*is always hopeful.*"
13. Love "*endures through every circumstance.*"
14. Love "*will last forever.*"

How is a husband to love his wife?

1. ***Unconditionally***, as Christ loved the church, vs. 25.

God created marriage to illustrate the relationship between Christ and the church. Christ's love for the church is unconditional. He loved us when we were undeserving and unworthy. Contrast with the world's love. Husband's are you loving your wife unconditionally or are there strings attached?

Husbands:

- Do you want your marriage to grow strong?
- Do you want your children to grow up walking with God?
- Do you want your church to be a powerful witness in your community?

2. ***Sacrificially***, vs. 25, “and gave Himself for it.”

Think of the price Jesus paid for us!

- He came from Heaven
- He was tempted
- He suffered
- He died
- He lives for us, He did it willingly!

3. ***Sanctifyingly***, vs. 26-27.

- Husbands are to have their wives spiritual development always in view.
- You are to be the spiritual leader in your marriage.

1. Your walk with God.
2. Praying together.
3. Reading the Word.
4. Church fellowship.

4. ***Affectionately***, vv. 28-30.

- As your own body, vs. 28.
- Don't abuse your wife, vs. 29.
- She's your body and bride.
- Show affection.

5. ***Exclusively***, vs. 31.

- Leave, all others.
- Cleave, only to her.
- One-flesh, drink waters from your own well.

In summary, vv. 32-33. In her book *To Live Again*, Catherine Marshall says, “Every human being needs love. Most of our troubles springs from the lack of it. Like thirsty men in a desert, we perish without it.”

Husbands, your wife needs you and God has called you to love your wife!

1. Unconditionally
2. Sacrificially
3. Sanctifyingly
4. Affectionately
5. Exclusively

God will give you the power!