

What It Means to Be a Husband

Ephesians 5:22-33

What does it mean to be a husband?

How you answer this question will greatly determine the level of satisfaction or dysfunction in your marriage and home.

What It Means to Be a Husband:

1. Husbands, LEAD Your Wife (and Family)!

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. Ephesians 5:22-23

Definition of Headship: Headship is the divine calling of a husband to take primary responsibility for Christ-like leadership, protection, and provision in the home. *(by John Piper)*

What does Christ-like leadership include?

- Christ-like leadership includes AUTHORITY. *1Corinthians 11:3*

- Christ-like leadership includes RESPONSIBILITY. *1Timothy 3:4*

- Christ-like leadership includes HUMILITY. *Luke 22:25-26 John 13:1-20*

- Christ-like leadership includes INTIMACY. *1Peter 3:7*

- Christ-like leadership includes ACCOUNTABILITY. *Genesis 3:9*

Two Common Problems:

Husbands who ABUSE their authority as head (hostile domination) or AVOID their responsibility to lead (lazy indifference).

2. Husbands, LOVE Your Wife (and Family)!

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it... So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies... Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself. Ephesians 5:25, 28, 33

What does it mean to love your wife? Two Analogies:

- Love your wife like Christ loved the CHURCH.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. Ephesians 5:25-27

How did Christ love the church?

With a SACRIFICING love that gave His life for the church.

- Love your wife like you love YOURSELF.

So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. Ephesians 5:28-29

How do we love ourselves?

With a CARING love that nourishes and cherishes our own bodies.

A Caution to Wives:

You cannot DEMAND that your husband take leadership in your marriage and home and love you like Christ loved the church.

Encouragement for Husbands:

God doesn't call you to do what He won't EMPOWER you to do!

*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13
Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10*