

Godly Husbands

**1Sam. 4:9 "Be strong and
conduct yourselves like
men..."**

God Give Us Christian Homes

- Jer. 5:30 - "An astonishing and horrible thing has been committed in the land"
 - There are over 1,000,000 divorces per year in America
 - It has been said that only one of six marriages today work in the sense of the two enjoying being together
 - It has been documented that 70% of teenage marriages end in divorce within five years.
 - The eventual divorce rate of teenage marriages is 85%
- Mal. 2:16 - "For the LORD God of Israel says That He hates divorce"

Husbands Must Cleave To Their Wives

- The institution of marriage first began in the Garden of Eden
 - Gen. 2:18-24 - "And the LORD God said, It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him. 21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. 22 Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. 23 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. 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."

Husbands Must Cleave To Their Wives

- "Cleave" - comes from the Hebrew dawbak (dabaq) meaning "to impinge, cling or adhere; figuratively, to catch by pursuit; abide fast, cleave fast together, follow close or hard after, be joined together, keep fast, overtake, pursue hard, stick to, take" (Strong's 01692)

Husbands Must Cleave To Their Wives

- Matt. 19:5 - "And He answered and said to them, Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' 5 and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?"
- "Joined" is from proskollao meaning "to glue to, to adhere, cleave, join" (Strong's 4347)

Husbands Must Cleave To Their Wives

- God's plan
 - Matt. 5:32 - "But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery."
 - Rom. 7:2 - "For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband."

Husbands Must Love Their Wives

- Eph. 5:25, 28 - "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her... 28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself."
- One out of every three marriages among Christians are breaking down. Why?
 - One reason: husbands are failing to practice Ephesians 5:25

Husbands Must Love Their Wives

- Love is seen in action, not merely in words
 - 1John 3:16-18 - "By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. 17 But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? 18 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth."

Husbands Must Dwell With Their Wives According To Knowledge

- 1Peter 3:7 - "Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered."
- "Dwell" is from sunoikeo meaning "to reside together or dwell together in domestic association" (Strong's 4924)

Husbands Must Dwell With Their Wives According To Knowledge

- If one does not know the true nature of marriage, he cannot fully appreciate it - Gen. 2:23-24
- If one does not know his duties in marriage, he cannot fulfill his obligations - Eph. 5:25
- If one does not understand the longevity of marriage, he may not seek to keep his marriage intact - Matt. 19:6
- If one does not comprehend the honorableness of marriage, he will not treat it with honor - Heb. 13:4

Husbands Must Honor Their Wives As The Weaker Vessel

- Husbands may not excuse themselves from keeping this command
 - John 14:15 - "If you love Me, keep My commandments."
 - James 2:10 - "For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all."

Husbands Must Render Physical Affection To Their Wives

- 1Cor. 7:1-5 - "Now concerning the things of which you wrote to me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman. 2 Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. 3 Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband. 4 The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. 5 Do not deprive one another except with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control."

Husbands Must Render Physical Affection To Their Wives

- Some men cannot accomplish this for legitimate reasons: spiritual purposes or ill health
- Other men fail for Divinely unacceptable reasons:
 - A lack of affection and love - Eph. 5:28
 - To exact revenge or for punishment over disagreement - Rom. 12:20
 - To control, manipulate, or pressure one's wife into something - Eph. 5:25
 - To avoid having children - 1Tim. 2:15, 5:14

Husbands Must Learn, Love, And Live With Their Wives

- Make it a practice to give total attention when communicating
- Do not interrupt or jump to conclusions about what the other is saying
- Acknowledge that you understand even though you may not agree
- Repeat her feelings and thoughts back if you are uncertain what she means
- Don't make disagreement into disapproval
- Don't heap blame on the other
- Never repeat to others what she shares with you in confidence

Husbands Must Learn, Love, And Live With Their Wives

- Silence is negative feedback
- Do not bring up past arguments or attack her family
- Give each other focused attention by turning off the TV or getting away from the children
- Listen to her feelings without offering criticism or ridicule
- Park your ego; don't be afraid to show your love
- Be completely honest; love demands it, God commands it
- Apply BEST principle: Bless, Edify, Share, Touch