



Happy Husband, Happy Home

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Ephesians 5:21–24, 33

1. Companionship

Genesis 2:18 (MSG)

2. Sex

James 1:14–15 (NASB); Proverbs 7:23

3. Honor

Mark 6:1–5

What is the Holy Spirit saying to me through this message?

All scripture is from the New King James Version unless otherwise noted.



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Series: Broken – Repairing the Family

Session: Happy Husband, Happy Home

I. Introduction – Ephesians 5

We've been learning about how to repair our families because we have broken families. Since the fall of the first family, sin entered into all families and has broken each one of them. When sin came in so did shame, blame, and fame. We can begin to repair our families when we start meeting the needs of our spouse and children. Last week we learned 3 basic needs of the wife: *Communication*, *Leadership*, and *Security*. Today we will learn 3 basic needs of the husband, so wives listen up!

Ephesians 5:21-24; 33

²¹submitting to one another in the fear of God. ²²Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. ²⁴Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in everything. ³³Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects *her* husband.

The word '*submit*' has a lot of bad press. Wives aren't the only ones that are called to submit. Verse 21 of Ephesians tells us that we are all called to submit to one another.

To better understand the word submission, think of the word submarine. 'Marine' refers to a ship in the water. 'Sub' means under. So submarine means a ship that goes under the water. Submission simply means to place your mission underneath the mission of someone else, your husband, and Jesus Christ. We all have our own missions in life. The best way for you to accomplish those missions is by placing them underneath someone else's mission.

II. COMPANIONSHIP

The first need of your husband is companionship.

¹⁸GOD said, "It's not good for the Man to be alone; I'll make him a helper, a companion."

The reason why God created Eve is so that Adam would have a companion. Another word for companion is *playmate*. Adam wanted someone he could play with. He was probably down there in the garden swinging with the monkeys because he just wants someone to play with, a companion. God looks down and see him playing with the monkeys and says 'that's not good, let's make him a companion, someone he can do things with.'

Men love to have fun. Why do you think men buy train sets for your children at Christmas? It's because they want to play with them. When the children go to bed, the man will be in there playing with the train set. Men love to play.

Men are like dogs. You do this to your husband sometime: ask him if he wants to have fun. He'll respond and say yeah,yeah,yeah,yeah,yeah. And then you say go get your ball, go get your ball. I'm telling you men are like dogs. He will get so excited. This is the way men are.

You probably know good and well that your husband loves to play because he is always going fishing, playing golf, or whatever. Listen, he'd rather be doing it with you. The reason why we fall in love is because we do fun things together. The reason why we fall out of love is because we stop doing fun things together. So ladies, find something that he loves doing to have fun, and do it with him! And by the way, shopping is not fun.

Think about how God made men and women differently. Let me go back a couple hundred years to a man named Daniel Boone. We are all familiar with Daniel Boone. I'm going to tell you two stories about him and you tell me which one is true:

- Daniel Boone gets up in the morning, grabs his gun, and walks outside. He sees some flowers, smells them, and says to himself 'these would make wonderful potpourri'. Then as he is walking through the woods he sees a deer, raises his gun, and then he thinks 'he's so cute, I can't shoot him he might be Bambi's father.' He then lowers his gun, wipes a tear away, picks the flowers up, goes back inside his house and starts making drapes.
- Daniel Boone gets up in the morning, grabs his gun, and walks outside. He steps on the flowers, sees a deer that actually is Bambi, and raises his gun and blows him away. He then takes his knife and guts the deer right there.

God made Daniel Boone that way! God made men that way. They are not connected to their emotions, one of the reasons why is so that they can kill things. That is just normal for a man. But one of man's greatest needs is companionship. Why did God make him that way? So that he would go back home after he kills the deer. Otherwise he'd be out in the woods eating the deer thinking to himself 'I know I'm forgetting something'.

So companionship is one of the basic needs of your husband.

III. SEX

Another basic need of your husband is SEX.

This is not a dirty word. Sex is something God created for a husband and wife to enjoy. This is another reason why Daniel Boone goes home after he kills the deer.

Ladies, as great your need is for communication, sex is a man's need. In the same way that a man needs to understand that a woman needs communication, a woman needs to understand that sex is a need of a man.

Here's the problem: we hear things through our own needs. For instance, one of a wife's needs is non-sexual affection. Women like to be held without it leading to something. When a husband says 'I need sex', a wife just thinks that he needs to be held; no he doesn't. When a wife says that she needs to be held, the husband thinks 'she's coming on to me and who can blame her'. That's just the way men think. Here's what they say, 'she can't resist me'. O yes she can.

Sometimes this need doesn't get met and the world tries to tell us how to meet this need. Even though this is a valid need, any way that you meet this in an impure way, it's invalid. All sex outside of marriage leads to death:

James 1:14-15

¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. ¹⁵ Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

Proverbs 7:23

²³ Till an arrow struck his liver. As a bird hastens to the snare, He did not know it *would cost* his life.

This is a legitimate need but husbands must not meet it in an illegitimate way.

By the way, men get in touch with their emotions through sex; women get in touch with sex through their emotions. God made us that way!

IV. HONOR

Honor is the most important need of your husband. This is the number 1 need in a man's life.

Mark 6:1-5

¹ Then He went out from there and came to His own country, and His disciples followed Him. ² And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue. And many hearing *Him* were astonished, saying, "Where *did* this Man *get* these things? And what wisdom *is* this which is given to Him, that such mighty works are performed by His hands! ³ Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?" So they were offended at Him.

⁴ But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house." ⁵ Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed *them*.

Now this doesn't say that He would not, it says He could not. You have to remember that yes Jesus was fully God, but He was also fully man and laid down his divinity. He walked on this Earth as a man under the power of the Holy Spirit. And in conjunction with the principles that God walks in, He operates in faith. They didn't have faith because they didn't honor him. Jesus could not do, He couldn't because they didn't honor him.

Here's a question: If dishonor hindered Jesus when He was a man, could dishonor hinder your husband from doing great things? It's possible that you are living with a potentially great man but he isn't being honored.

Your husband's number 1 need is honor. It's not what you say; it's how you say it. This doesn't mean that you can't say something to your husband if you're going the wrong way or you're lost. Every decision in a marriage should be made by both the husband and wife. But many times a woman says it in the wrong way.

Your husband will not be able to hear you if you speak to him in a dishonorable way, even if you are right! If your husband thinks in any way that you are dishonoring him, he will turn his ears off. In the same way, a wife's number 1 need is security. If she feels insecure in any way, she can't hear you. We both go deaf when our number 1 need is not met. Nothing justifies an unloving husband and nothing justifies a dishonoring wife.

Here's what Ephesians 5 is telling the wives, 'Treat your husband like you treat Jesus'. The problem is that he isn't Jesus. He doesn't act like Jesus. Ephesians says that if you treat him like that, he'll get there! It is the cork in the bucket principle. If you put a cork in a bucket with no water, the cork just lays in the bottom. There's a whole bunch of men just lying in the bottom of a bucket. Praise is the water. You fill the bucket with water, the cork rises. Ladies I'm telling you that if you praise your husband he will rise.

Proverbs 31 talks about a virtuous wife. It says that her husband is respected in public. He is respected because she honors and praises him. You could be married to a great man of God, but you need to praise him for him to get there.

Behind every great man is an honoring wife. You could also say that behind every great man is a surprised wife too! Remember men are like dogs. When you get home after work and you see that your husband has put all the dishes away you say to him 'em a good boy, you put aw daw dishes in da sink, you a good boy!' It will help him!

Men act tough, but they are not. Men are tough physically, but not emotionally. Women are sensitive physically, but strong emotionally. As sensitive women are physically, men are that sensitive emotionally. Words hurt men more than they do women because men are emotionally shallow. Men do not have deep conversations; women have them all the time. All women's conversations are deep. Women slay each other with words. So when you say something to your husband in a dishonoring way, it is like him punching you in the stomach. The most damage you can do is to cut him down in public.

God inhabits the praises of His people which means that He lives in houses that praise Him. He made man in His image; men will only live in houses where they are praised. The reason why your husband goes fishing or plays golf with his buddies is because they will praise him. Think about it, why are there cheerleaders at men's sports and not women's?

Your husband will rise to the level of honor he receives. Honor him where you want him to be, not where he is. It will change your life, it will change your husband. Don't cut him down in public and don't cut him down in front of your girlfriends or family. If you do, soon his friends will know all his faults.

So the number 1 need of your husband is honor!



Happy Husband, Happy Home

Focus A great marriage is one in which the needs of each spouse are recognized and met by the other in a biblical way.

Open What is your favorite action movie? Why?

Read God designed marriage to be a reflection of His image on earth. The Bible tells wives to respect their husbands (Ephesians 5:33), and for both spouses to submit to one another (Ephesians 5:21). The word "submission" is like the word "submarine." It means to put your mission under the other person's mission.

A few of a man's greatest needs are companionship, sex and, most importantly, honor. Meeting these needs is the key to a husband's heart. The Bible says that wives are to treat their husbands as though they were interacting with Jesus. When wives respect and honor their husbands in the same way they would treat Jesus, the result is a happy, empowered husband.

- Talk**
1. [Men] Why is it important to you for your wife to be your companion? How do you think it benefits your marriage?
 2. As a couple, have you made it a point to do fun things together? What are some fun things you enjoy as a couple?

3. *"We go 'deaf' when our spouse does not honor our primary need."* ~ Pastor Robert Morris. (A man's number one need is honor; a woman's is security.) Why are we unable to hear one another properly when we are not honoring each other's primary need?
4. [Men] Would you rather feel loved and accepted or adequate and respected? Why?
[Women] Are you surprised by his answer? Why or why not?
5. Why is honor empowering to a man?

Live

1. [Women] What do you respect most about your husband? What is one area in which you are proud of him?
2. On your own, ask the Lord to show you an area concerning your marriage (or interpersonal relationships) in which you know the right thing to do but are not doing it. Write it down. Make a commitment to the Lord to obey Him this week.

Pray

Thank God for your spouse and your marriage. Thank Him that the Bible gives you the key to your spouse's heart. Ask Him to show both of you how to recognize and meet your spouse's needs more readily and willingly.