

# Husbands and Wives

***“Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church -- for we are members of his body. "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." This is a profound mystery -- but I am talking about Christ and the church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.” (Ephesians 5:22-33)***

***Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate:*** God is the one who put the prudent wife beside the suitable man to be the suitable helper for Him in his labour and work for the Lord. When God created man, He created him on His image and likeness, ***“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.” (Genesis 1:27)*** God at first created man and He put him in the garden that He planted in the east in Eden to work it and take care of it. So Adam was alone and God had laid on Him a great responsibility to take care of the vineyard and to take it to the end of the earth. Therefore, ***“The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.” (Genesis 2:18)*** In the mid of this great responsibility that God entrusted Adam to do there was a great need for somebody to help him and to support him; not only a helper but a suitable helper who can support and protect Adam in his mission that God entrusted to him. ***“So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man.” (Genesis 2:21-23)*** So what we can see here that God had made the suitable helper out of the man, but she is from God and in the image of God (not inferior to man), and brought her beside the man to help him and to support him in his ministry and service to God. God brought the woman out of the man, something that he knows so he will not refuse or regret.

We know that man sinned when he disobeyed God and eat the fruit of the tree that he should not eat. God punished them for what they did but His love for them still continued and the plan for their redemption and the redemption of all mankind was put on the ground when God promised to send His Son born of a woman to save mankind from sin and death. Truly Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to the world, he died on the cross for our sins, He was buried but rose from the death on the third day to give eternal life to those who believe in Him and follow His steps in their lives. But since the fall of man in sin, the sinful nature of the flesh that still there prohibit the work of the spirit and hinder the will of God from being prevailed.

But God's love for man is still the same and His plan for husband and wives still the same; to come back to God and to care together for the vineyard that He entrusted to the man to care. And for that reason God put the woman beside the man to help him to carry out his responsibility toward God. As husband and wives are still in flesh there will be always some sort of strives and fights between them. But since God's presence is there in their lives through the cross of Jesus, the Word of God and the Holy Spirit that sinful things between them would be abolished, ***“For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace.” (Ephesians 2:14-15)*** And God through His Word made the outline of how husband and wife deal and behave with each other.

***1- Wives, submit to your husband in everything as to the Lord: “Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives.” (1 Peter 3:1-2)*** The woman will gain the approval and the help of her husband if she is polite and respectful to him. God called the woman to be a suitable helper. For the big responsibility that God gave to the man he need somebody to help him to give him comfort and moral support and that what the woman for. Not only for physical support and sexual intimacy although both are needed but the more for the moral help and support. Are you helping your husband or you become a burden to him?

***2- Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy:*** To receive respect, help and support from the wife, the husband should show God's love to the wife as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for the church. Christ cared for the church by giving her Himself as well as the Word of God to wash her and make her clean. Husband should know the Word of God and practice the Word; he should also care for his wife not only giving her and provide for her physical needs, as well as the Word of God to cleanse her. A man who loves his wife he loves himself. Listen husbands and me one of you, if we care to our wives we care to ourselves, if we provide for our wives we provide for ourselves, and if we keep and preserve our wives we preserve ourselves.

***My Dear and Beloved: “However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.” (Ephesians 5:33)*** As both of you will fulfill your mankind duty to one another, in this way you are serving God and doing His will in building a fruitful and happy family and carry His Word to the end of the earth. To this purpose you commit yourself to God in prayer.

***My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord guide me with your Word and the Holy Spirit to do my part faithfully to build up my family. Lord give me more patient and faithfulness, love, goodness, kindness, and gentleness to build my family in the way that you wanted to be. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.***