

GODLY HUSBANDS

I Peter 3:7

A marriage will thrive when a godly husband follows God's guidelines

I. INTRODUCTION

A. THE SUBJECT: "You husbands"

B. THE EXPECTATION: "In the same way"

1. Practicing submission and thereby demonstrating excellent behavior to the pagans (see 2:12)
2. Submitting in a similar fashion as citizens (2:13-17), servants (2:18-20), Christ (2:21-25) and wives (3:1-6)
3. The husband is called to submit to God's Word by meeting his wife's needs

C. THE REALITY

1. Husbands often overlook God's expectations and fail to be what God wants them to be
2. The success or failure a marriage is primarily the husband's responsibility

II. INSTRUCTIONS

A. LIVE TOGETHER

1. Be there! > Residing at home, together
2. Be intimate! - See I Cor. 7:1-5
3. Be cherishing - See Ephesians 5:25-29
- Exp: Joseph was with Mary - Matthew 1:18-25
4. Be providing - Note I Tim. 5:8

B. BE INSIGHTFUL

1. This involves comprehension
 - a. Living with wives "in an understanding way"
 - b. God requires a husband to understand his wife
2. This also involves consideration
 - a. Be sensitive to her > She needs her husband's support not your analysis!
 - b. Cater to her likes and dislikes
 - c. Address her concerns
 - d. Meet her needs > Exp: David with Bathsheba in II Sam. 12:24

Over please >

C. SHOW RESPECT

1. Assign her a special place
 - a. Make her feel special - Prov. 31:28-29
 - b. Pamper her - Exp: Boaz in Ruth 2:8-9, 14-16
2. Remember her distinction
 - a. She is weaker
 - b. She is delicate and fine
3. By honoring her you exalt womanhood

D. PRAY EFFECTIVELY

1. Remember your partnership
 - a. You are fellow-heirs: Both blessed by God
 - b. You share in God's grace of life
2. Remember your preference
 - You don't want barricades or potholes obstructing your path to God - See Malachi 2:13-14

CONCLUSION:**God may bless you with 60 or more years of marriage**

- Husbands, it's up to you to determine how those years will unfold

1. Will they be good and godly?
2. What should you change today to make them better?

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