
The Messenger



“... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!” Romans 10:15

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Husbands Love Your Wives

by Dempsey Collins

1. Husbands are to love their wives
 - A. Ephesians 5:25-32 - Two basic ways
 1. As Christ loved the church (v. 25)
 - a. Christ's love is the model for husbands to imitate. To me, that is a pretty high standard, especially when we see the length to which Christ's love went for the church.
 - b. "He gave himself for her"
 - c. Test of love. . .
 - d. Christ's love was genuine commitment, unselfish, self-sacrificing
 - e. What about us husbands? The point is, we should be willing to sacrifice OURSELVES for her well-being, especially spiritual; not just our income or other physical things - OURSELVES. This is genuine love.
 2. As His own body (vs. 28)
 - a. Not saying should love wife as much. . .
 - b. Paul adds "For he who loves wife. . ."
 - c. Note also vs. 29 & vs. 31
 - B. Love described in I Corinthians 13:4-7
 1. Since the same word for love used here is also used in I Corinthians, let's look at Paul's description of love as given there.
 - a. Paul shows in this chapter the importance of love as a basis for all.
 - b. vv. 1-3 - Love is greater than gifts. If love is not the motivation, it profits nothing
 - c. vv. 8-13 - Duration of love
 - d. vv. 4-7 -Character of love -but ways to identify love, in other words, how it is proven
 - 1) In this way love is like faith - James 2:17 - without works is dead
 - C. Look now at characteristics as they would apply to marriage, especially husband toward wife.

1. v. 4 - "Love suffereth long" - Love is patient and tolerant
 - a. Hence - since husband is to love - Husband is to be patient and tolerant with his wife - Even when she does not measure up to his ideal of a good wife and his ideal can sometimes get pretty high, sometimes unreal.
 - b. A loving and submissive wife will want to try to please her husband, but husbands let us be reasonable about standards we set and patient about that diet, cooking, cleaning, knowledge and understanding of our jobs, we somehow magically expect them to have; just as they are patient with us about hobbies, our diet and eating habits, messiness and time away from home.

2. IS KIND - Hence, a husband is to be kind and courteous to his wife, one way proving his respect and esteem for her.
 - a. Manners and courtesies are just as important after marriage as before

Two lovers walking down the street;
 She trips, he murmurs, "Careful Sweet!"
 Now wed, they tread the self-same street;
 She trips; he growls, "Pick up your feet."
 Such is the pattern of many marriages.
 See guys if we are consistently kind, we avoid messes like that.
 - b. A part of being kind is remembering the little things - words of a woman about little things:

Little Things Mean A Lot

Blow me a kiss from across the room,
 Say I look nice, I smell good.
 Touch my hair as you pass my chair,
 Little things mean a lot.
 Give me your arm as we cross the street,
 Call me at six on the dot.
 A line or call a day when you're far away.
 Little things mean a lot.
 Give me your hand when I've lost the way,
 Whether the day is bright or gray,
 Give me your heart to rely on.
 Give me the warmth of a secret smile,
 To show me you haven't forgot.
 For now and forever, for always and ever,
 Little things mean a lot.
 Husbands are to be kind.

To be continued

News and Notes:

Remember to check the prayer list for those with ongoing spiritual weaknesses and physical illnesses.

"...Pray for one another...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16