

~ *Marriage Pearls* ~



er devoted more space to instructing the wives than husbands because the Christian wives were experiencing a brand new situation and needed guidance. In general, women were kept down in the Roman Empire, and their new freedom in Christ created new problems and challenges. Furthermore, many of them had unsaved husbands and needed extra encouragement and brightening. As Peter wrote to the Christian husband, he reminded them of their areas of responsibilities in their relationship with their spouses:

Physical

Intellectual

Emotional

Spiritual

Physical – *“dwell with them”*

- This implies more than sharing the same address.
- Marriage fundamentally is a physical relationship: the two become one flesh (**Gen. 2: 24 / Eph. 5: 31**).
- Christian spouses enjoy a deeper spiritual relationship, which include fulfilling their marital duties to each other(**1Cor. 7: 1 - 5**).
- The husband **must** take quality time to be home with his wife.
- Christian workers and church officers who get too busy solving other people’s problems often end up with problems of their own at home.

Physical – *“dwell with them” cont.*

- ❑ Children often take away from husband and wife alone time, so when the children are grown and gone, two strangers are left alone in the home.
- ❑ Dwell with them also suggests that the husband provides for the physical and material needs for the home.
- ❑ While it is not wrong for the wife to have a job or a career, her first responsibility is to care for the home (**Tit. 2: 4 – 5**).
- ❑ It is the husband’s responsibility to provide for the home (**1 Tim. 5: 8**).

Intellectual – *“according to knowledge”*

It is amazing that two married people can live together for years and not really know each other. Ignorance is dangerous in any area of life, but especially in marriage. A Christian husband needs to know his wife's moods, feelings, needs, fears, hopes and dreams. He needs to listen with his heart and eyes, not just with his ears. **He needs to share meaningful communication with her.** There must be an atmosphere in the home where they can disagree with one another and still be loving and happy together. Speaking *“the truth in love”* is the solution to the communication problem (**Eph. 4: 15**). It has been well said, “love without truth is hypocrisy, and truth without love is brutality.” “I never knew you felt that way” only should be said early in the marriage. An atmosphere of sharing should be developed in the relationship early and it should grow as time continues.

Emotional – *“giving honor to the wife”*

- Chivalry may be dead, but not in the home of a Christian family.
- Peter did not suggest that the wife is weaker mentally, morally or spiritually but physically.
- There are exceptions to every rule, but generally speaking, a man is the stronger of the two when it comes to physical strength.
- The Christian husband is to treat his wife like an expensive, beautiful, fragile vase that encompasses a precious treasure.
- The chivalry that began during courtship should expand after marriage, and not diminish.
- Big resentments often grow out of small hurts.
- Husbands and wives need to be honest with each other – admit hurts and seek forgiveness and healing.

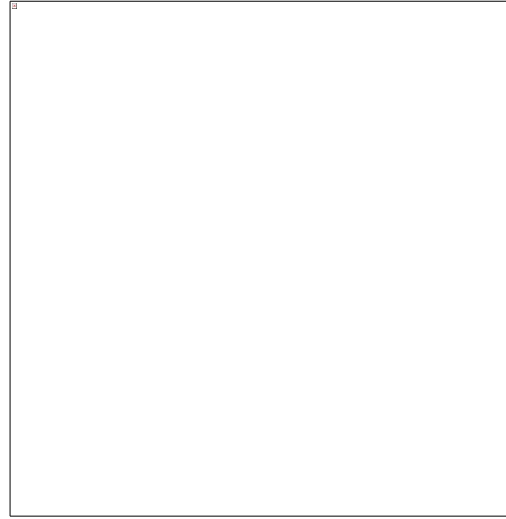
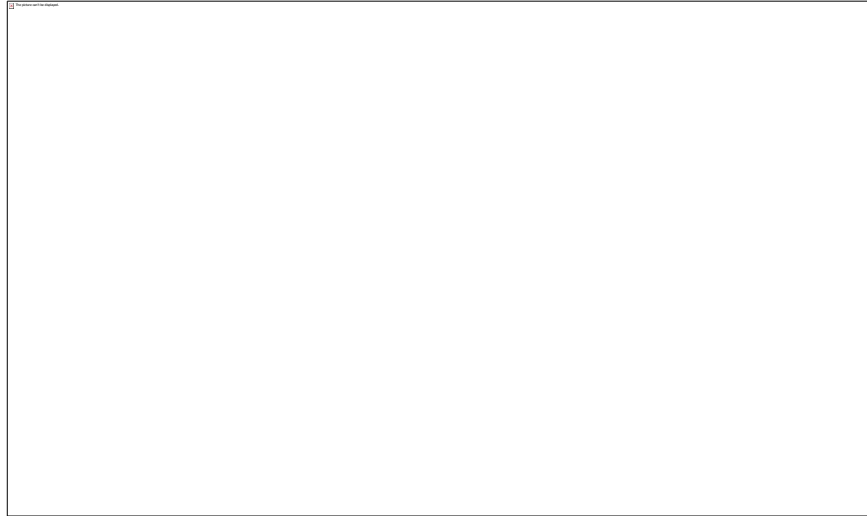
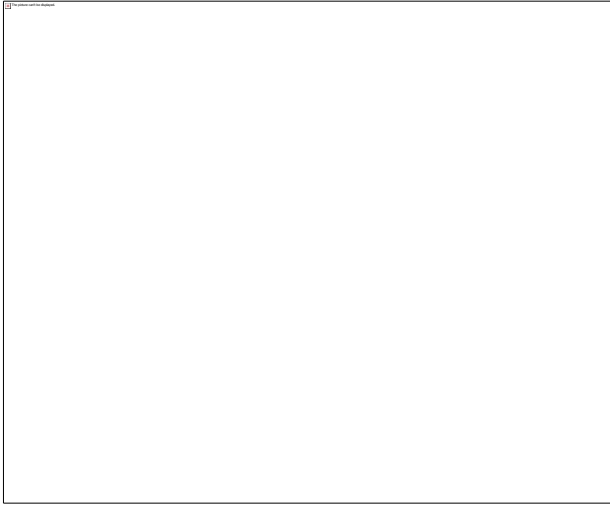
Emotional – *“giving honor to the wife” (cont.)*

- A husband can disagree with his wife and still respect and honor her.
- As the spiritual leader in the home, the husband sometimes must make decisions that may not be popular; but he still can act with courtesy, honor and respect.
- “Giving honor” means that the husband respects his wife’s feelings, ideas, thinking and desires in all aspects of his decision making.
- He may not agree with them, but he carefully considers them.
- If he thinks they will work, he goes with them, if not, at least he gave them careful consideration.
- The wife may be the thermometer of the home, but the Christian husband must be the thermostat at all times.

Spiritual – *“that your prayers not be hindered”*

If unconverted couples can have a happy home without prayer (*and some do*), how much happier Christian homes would be with prayer. It is the prayer life of a couple that indicates how things are going in the home. A husband and wife need to have their own private, individual prayer time each day. They also need to pray together and to have a time of “family devotion”. This will change from time to time and as children grow up and schedules change. If both husband and wife submit to Christ, they will have an enriching experience in marriage. If they do not submit to God’s Word for them in marriage, they will miss out on God’s best for them and rob each other of blessings and growth. They teach their children by their example, but even childless couples enjoy God’s blessings when they follow God’s plan.

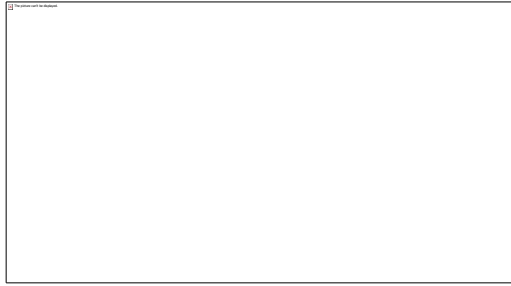
~ Hold Me, Squeeze Me, Kiss Me ~



- It was GOD who said it was not good that man should be alone
- So GOD made / fashioned (NASV) man a helper / help meet
- Woman was designed by GOD to be a help meet to man
- In all of GOD's infinite wisdom demonstrated in creation, HE **did not** make another man to be a helper to Adam.

- ✓ The leaving involves more than a change of address or residence.
- ✓ The leaving involves a change in the single lifestyle and way of living.
- ✓ Our focus mainly is on the Cleaving... how 2 adults become 1 flesh!
- ✓ As been stated, “marriage is for grown folks”, physically, you’re formed.
- ✓ As a rule, what attracts individuals to one another is strengths that reveal their personal weaknesses. *(There are exceptions to every rule!)*
- ✓ When a man cleaves to a woman who excels in the area where he is weak, and he excels in the area where she is weak, they 2 become 1 flesh and they will compliment each other.

~ caressing ~



~ KÍSSÍNG ~

