

DEVELOPING MARRIAGE ONENESS (PART TWO)

I. Biblical Headship in the Home

Elder—A good manager/ruler of his home. 1 Timothy 3:2-4, 12—*“Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He **must manage his own household well**, with all dignity keeping his children submissive... Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, **managing their children and their own households well.**”*

- Manager
- Respectful
- Mature
- Right Priorities
- Faith
- Good Relationship with Wife
- Disciplined
- Committed to Family
- Good Example

1. **Decision Maker**—He takes action and leads the family. He makes decisions that move him out of passivity.
 - Have regular meetings with your wife.
 - Have daily check-ups on how your wife is doing. How are the kids doing? How is school going?
2. **Leader in Family Worship**—He is the spiritual leader who feeds the flock.
 - A father must be the one to take the initiative for and charge of family worship, even if he occasionally cannot be present.
 - Reminds the father of his dependency on God.
 - A time in which the family can be together.
 - It is important for fathers to lead their families to God.
 - Promotes piety in the father’s life.
 - Purifies the wife.
 - Preserves family leadership.
 - Reinforces the truth being taught.
 - Promotes sound doctrine.
 - Potential for big impact in children’s lives.
3. **Financial Manager**—He bears the main responsibility of providing for the home.
4. **A Visionary**—He is a vigorous man with ideas and passion; he communicates vision.
 - Psalm 112:1-10—*“Praise the LORD! **Blessed is the man who fears the LORD who greatly delights in his commandments! His offspring will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever. Light dawns in the darkness for the upright; he is gracious, merciful, and righteous. It is well with the man***

*who deals generously and lends; who conducts his affairs with justice. For the righteous will never be moved; he will be remembered forever. **He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD. His heart is steady; he will not be afraid, until he looks in triumph on his adversaries.** He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever ;his horn is exalted in honor. The wicked man sees it and is angry; he gnashes his teeth and melts away; the desire of the wicked will perish!”*

- He needs to be the emotional strong one.

5. Protector of his family from evil influence—He beats off the wolves.

- Psalm 101:1-8—*“I will sing of steadfast love and justice; to you, O LORD, I will make music. I will ponder the way that is blameless. Oh when will you come to me? I will walk with integrity of heart within my house; I will not set before my eyes anything that is worthless. I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me. A perverse heart shall be far from me; I will know nothing of evil. Whoever slanders his neighbor secretly I will destroy. Whoever has a haughty look and an arrogant heart he will not endure. I will look with favor on the faithful in the land that they may dwell with me; he who walks in the way that is blameless shall minister to me. No one who practices deceit shall dwell in my house; no one who utters lies shall continue before my eyes. Morning by morning I will destroy all the wicked in the land, cutting off all the evildoers from the city of the LORD.”*

II. How Husband’s Biblically Lead Their Wives

1. A husband needs to treat his wife in a loving way. Colossians 3:19—*“Husbands, love your wives, and **do not be harsh with them.**”*
 - Forgive them
 - Control your anger
 - Kind tone of voice
2. A husband needs to demonstrate leadership, covering, and protection. Ephesians 5:22-24—*“Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.”*
 - Demonstrates her need to be protected.
 - Demonstrates her need to be taken care of.
 - Women have a great need for security.
 - Women are vulnerable to fears. *“What if? What about?”*
 - Even women that have leadership abilities and appear to be strong have needs for security.
 - Help them with their fears.
3. The husband must be willing to sacrifice himself for his wife. Ephesians 5:25a—*“Husbands, **love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.**”*
 - A man must be willing to lay down his life for his wife.
 - A man must sacrifice himself (death to self) in loving his wife.
 - Loving her will sometimes not be comfortable.

- He must be willing to get hurt.
 - Sacrificing for her communicates that she matters and has value.
4. A husband is to nurture his wife spiritually. Ephesians 5:25b-27—“***that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.***”
 - Take care of your own spiritual growth.
 - Accepting and loving your wife unconditionally.
 - Caring about and understanding what God is doing in her life.
 - Make certain she is in the Word of God and growing.
 - Take her to the Lord in prayer.
 - Make sure she is in fellowship with others.
 5. A husband is to cherish his wife. Ephesians 5—“***In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body.***”
 - Affirm her value to you.
 - Be glad to be with her (all the time).
 - Do not defend yourself when she feels rejected by you; try to understand why she feels that way.
 - Give her “I love you” hugs.
 - Pay attention to her when she speaks to you.
 - Ask her about her thoughts, feelings, hopes, and desires.
 - Learn to speak her love language.
 - Date her on a regular basis.
 6. A husband is to dwell with his wife with understanding. 1 Peter 3:7—“***husbands live with your wives in an understanding way.***”
 - Understanding indicates a mental understanding. Understanding helps a person to open up their heart. Misunderstanding causes a person to want to withdraw their heart.
 - Learn how she is processing events, decisions, and life situations. A woman will process these things with her emotions (feelings), mind (logic), will (choice), and spirit (conscience).
 - Learn to understand how she feels about things by solving the “emotional story problem.”
 - Build your emotional vocabulary.
 7. He must honor her as the weaker vessel. 1 Peter 3:7—“***showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel.***”
 - Acknowledge your wife’s vulnerabilities emotionally and physically.
 - Be the emotionally strong one.
 8. He is to treat her as a joint heir in Christ. 1 Peter 3:7—“***since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.***”
 - Protect your spiritual intimacy and the prayer life you share.