

I PETER 3:7

Intro: Last week we looked at the Biblical method for wives of unsaved or spiritually wayward husbands to reach those husbands with the Gospel. We saw that the husband is to be reached by the saved wife demonstrating Christlikeness to him, even when that husband is a difficult man to live with. (Cf 2:18-21) As he sees the impact Christ is having in her life, he most likely will become convicted by the Holy Spirit of his need of Christ in his own life. Today, we are looking at what Peter says to the believer husbands.

I. **Likewise**-In the same manner as was established for the wife in verse 1-6.

II. **Ye husbands**

- A. Peter is speaking to men who are _____.
- B. It seems safe to say that Peter was speaking to husbands who are _____.
- C. It also seems that Peter is speaking to husbands in general, not to just men who are married to _____ women.

III. Dwell with them according to knowledge

A. **Dwell with them**-The husband is expected to dwell with his wife and is not given a license to _____ her.

1. Live in the _____ house with
2. Carry out your _____ to your wife as her husband

B. Dwell with them **according to knowledge**

1. **According to**-in accordance or _____ with
2. **Knowledge**- "With an intelligent recognition of the nature of the marriage relation"
Vincent Word Studies
3. "In accordance with an intelligent view of the nature of the relation; or, as becomes those who have been instructed in the duties of this relation according to the gospel. The meaning evidently is, that they should seek to obtain just views of what Christianity enjoins in regard to this relation, and that they should allow those intelligent views to control them in all their actions with their wives." **Barnes NT Notes**
4. Being _____ of the wife

IV. _____ as revealed by Peter to the husbands to whom he is writing.

A. **Giving honor unto the wife**

1. **Giving**-to _____ grant something that is in one's power to give without expectation of being repaid
2. **Honor**-to place _____ on the wife, to treat with her with _____, care, and lovingkindness
 - a. Eph 5:25-28 *Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. 28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.*
 - b. Love your wife as Christ loves His church
 - (1) **Love**-Agapao, the love that God is
 - (2) To feel and exhibit esteem and goodwill to a person, to _____ and delight in
 - (3) Give _____ to your wife as Christ gave Himself to His Church
 - (a) Make yourself _____ to your wife

- (b) Give your wife your _____, talents, and presence
- (c) You married her to be with _____
- (4) The purpose of Christ's giving of Himself was to create a _____ church
 - (a) Christ gave Himself for an _____ church that through His association with the church it might become better than it presently is.
 - (b) Spot—_____; wrinkle—wrinkle free; blemish--unblemished
- c. **Unto the wife**-to your _____ wife
- B. **As unto the weaker vessel**
 - 1. **Weaker vessel**
 - a. **Weaker**-less _____ strength than the man
 - b. "She is termed the weaker, not for intellectual or moral weakness, but purely for physical reasons, which the husband must recognize with due consideration for marital happiness." **Robertson Word Pictures**
 - 2. **Vessel**- "Vessel" was a common Greek metaphor for "body" since Greeks thought of souls living temporarily in bodies." **Enhanced Strong's Lexicon**
- C. **As being heirs together of the grace of life**
 - 1. The husband and wife are _____ heirs of the grace of life
 - 2. The main concern of the husband should always be the _____ well-being of his wife.
- D. **That your prayers be not hindered**
 - 1. **Hindered**-literally means to be _____
 - 2. Implied is that the husband and wife will be praying _____.
 - 3. Implied is the relationship between the husband and wife will affect the _____ of their prayers together.
 - 4. *Mt 18:19 Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.*

Concl: The husband/wife relationship is of great importance to God. He has established a very _____ plan for making the marriage relationship work wonderfully. As we men _____ the Lord in our relationship to our wife, we will _____ Christ to her. The love we have for our wife, and the way we treat our wife is a _____ picture of the love we have for, and the way we treat _____.