

# GOD'S INITIAL DESIGN

Matthew 22:37-39

By

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- I. Right Relationship with GOD
  
- II. Right Relationship with ourselves
  
- III. Right Relationship with others
  1. Husband
  2. Children
  3. Parents and In-Laws
  4. Friends and others
  
- IV. Right Order in the Home
  1. Finances
  2. Time Management
  3. Order in the Home
  4. Priorities
  5. Attitudes and Atmosphere
  6. Sex
  7. Health/Nutrition

## I. RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

- A. God's purpose in the beginning
- B. What happened?
- C. God restores

Matthew 22: 37-39

- 1<sup>st</sup> Love GOD
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Love yourself
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Love your neighbor

### A. God' purpose in the Beginning

1. To have fellowship with man, God desired a family.  
I John1:3 Genesis :2:19, 3:8
2. to have a daily relationship with man  
To walk with God, to talk with Him, to know Him  
Complete openness with him, live with Him Eternally  
Genesis 5:22,24 Enoch; 6:9 Noah Exodus 33:9 Moses.
3. Man was not to live alone; the woman was to be a perfect partner with her husband.
  - To be one: in spirit, soul and body
  - Complete openness with each other, naked, nothing to hide.
  - Eve completed Adam Genesis 2:18-25
  - GOD deals with us where we are today and the marriage we have today.
4. Man was to enjoy life, work his environment and each other. Genesis 2:18-25, 1:28-31
5. We were to know who we are as a creation of God and to be fulfilled in being that person. Genesis 1:26-28

God's first question to man was "Where are You"? Genesis 3:9

God's second question was "Where is your Brother Genesis 4:9

**B. WHAT Happened to God's Initial Purpose for the Man & Woman?**  
 The Command Genesis 2:17 The Result Genesis 3:9,16,17

They were tempted and fell into sin.

Man rebelled against God Gen 2:17, 3:9,16,17

- Eve was tempted Genesis 3:1-5
- Eve disobey Genesis 3:6
- The consequence Genesis 3:7-24 Eve's POWER of influence
- Separation from God Physical death

God gave Adam the AUTHORITY to rule the garden and the command to not eat of the tree of good and evil. Eve had the POWER of influence over her husband for good or evil.

Sin entered the garden not when Eve ate the fruit but when Adam knowingly took the fruit also. Eve was deceived. Adam was not but he Loved the woman God created for him enough to die with her.

Example: Jesus loved us enough to die in our place.

**RESULTS of Sin:**

1. Man is alienated from God, separated from God
  - He hides from God, Genesis 3:8,9; is fearful of God 3:10
  - Denies God exist, Romans 1:20-22
  - Has no personal relationship with God
  - Genesis 4:14-16 Romans 6:23
2. Man has conflict with the woman in marriage I Timothy 2:14
  - She does not complete him, she competes with Him, they are not longer "one" but fragmented, out of order, self centered.
3. Man kills his brother, has jealousy, envy, greed & hatred for his brother. SELF-CENTERED. Genesis 4 Cain and Able
4. 4 Mans work, life, has become stressful, empty, superficial, unfulfilling, His environment is being destroyed,
5. Man denies the creator who made him and rejects the person God made him to be and strives to be someone He is not.  
Romans 1:21, 25

### C. GOD RESTORES HIS INITIAL PURPOSE FOR MANKIND

1. GOD desires fellowship with us, now we can become a part of His family, because Jesus paid the penalty for Sin. Revelation 3:20, John 1:12, 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Philipians 2:6-11
  
2. We can have eternal life with GOD , we can know God personally We can walk with Him daily. John 11:25,26; 3:17-18; 6:35; 14:6 Hebrews 11:6, I John 5:11-13 I Timothy 2:5, One God, One Mediator-Jesus.
  
3. The Marriage relationship can be restored through proper order Ephesians 5:22-31 We can be ONE spirit, soul, and body
  
4. Jesus came that we might have Life John 10:10. Our work, our life can be joyfull and fulfilling. Our relationship with others can be as God intended in the beginning. Colossians 3:17-23
  
5. WE can be ALL that GOD intended us to be, because we are created in His image, we are His workmanship, Ephesians 2:10. WE can be fulfilled by being who HE created us to be.  
Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 5:15, 18, 20

**“THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS RIGHTEOUSNESS, PEACE, & JOY”**

## THE MASTER DESIGNER

### I. The **RIGHT** fabric furnished

Choosing the right material says WHAT the finished product will  
"Look" like, "Feel" like and How it will 'Fit"

Psalm 139

Ephesians 1:4,5,6, 11

2:10

II Timothy 1:9

### II. A Pattern with an instruction guide i.e.. the BIBLE

### III. Necessary Equipment- Given by GOD

Abilities, spiritual gifts, talents, temperament, natural giftings

### V. God gives it all and says now **BE** what I designed you to be.

V. GOD gives us the "freedom" of Choice of WHAT we do with WHAT  
we have been given. Romans 6:16, John 10:10

**WE HOLD THE "KEY" TO OUR OWN HAPPINESS** by our freedom  
of choice.

Hippocrates – The father of Medicine:

He theorized that there were four basic fluids within the body of each person. These were determining factors in how a person **acted**, his or her **personality traits**.

1. blood –(warm), **SANGUINE** – High Color & Cheerfulness
2. black bile – (humid) **MELANCHOLY** – Pensive, Depressed
3. Yellow bile (dry) **CHOLERIC** – easily moved to anger
4. Phlegm (cold or thick) **PHLEGMATIC** – slow, sluggish

**New American standard Bible**

**PROVERBS:**

30:11 *“There is a kind of man who curses his father and does not bless His mother.”*

**Melancholy** -ungrateful, critical, fault finder,

30:12 *“There is a kind of man who is pure in His own eyes yet is not washed from His filthiness.”*

**Phlegmatic** - self-satisfied, can not see his own sins, self righteous, nice guy.

30:13 *“There is a kind of man, of how lofty are his eyes and his eyelids are raised in arrogance”*

**Sanguine** - self exalting, egocentric

30:14 *“There is a kind of man whose teeth are like a sword and his jaw teeth like knives, to devour the afflicted from the earth”*

**Choleric** - sharp, sarcastic tongue

## SUBMISSION

The structure that supports the marriage

Submission is : **AN ATTITUDE OF THE HEART** where we are willing to put the other person's **needs, desires, rights, and reputation**, ahead of our own, in order to Honor Christ.

**Philippians: 2:1-8**

**Romans 12:3,10,17**

**Titus 3:1,2**

**Colossians 3:17,18**

Submission is a **choice** that we make  
An assigned place as in the military ie ICor:11:3

Submission's Results:

Personal growth and fulfillment

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| a. growth in Christ | Jn 14:21             |
| b. Joy              | Ps 16:11 Eph 5:18-21 |
| c. Peace            | Gal 5:22 Phil 4:6,7  |
| d. Beauty           | I Pet 3:3,4          |
| e. Strength         | Phil 4:13            |
| f. God's Protection | Ps 91:1, I Cor 10:13 |
| g. Freedom          | II Cor 3:7           |
| h. Love             | Gal 5:22             |
| i. Security         | Prov 10:8            |

### **Helpmeet, helper:**

One who helps her husband become all that God intended him to be,  
By becoming all that God intended for her to be.

A helpmeet :

- Believes in you
- Accepts you as you are
- Understands you
- Is interested in you
- Is helpful to you

Submission is LOVE in ACTION, it communicates to your husband that he is more valuable and his needs are more important than yours.

## BUILDING FOR THE FAMILY

Proverbs 24: 3, 4

Through Skillful and **Godly Wisdom** is a house ( a life, a home, a family) built, and by **understanding** it is established (on a sound and good foundation). And by **knowledge** shall its chambers (for every area) be filled with all precious and pleasant riches

“A **Wise** Woman ‘BUILDS’ Her House”.....

Proverbs 14:1 Every **wise** woman builds her house, but the **Foolish** one tears it down with her own hands.

“Foolish” -- thick, dull, sluggish to the things of God,  
bent on destruction, stupid, silly (empty headed)

Prov. 18:6,7,21

21:23

Prov. 12:15 “The way of a **Fool** is right in his own eye, but he Who would listen to counsel is ‘**Wise**’.

15:32 “He who refuses and ignores instruction and correction  
Despises himself, but he who heeds reproof gets understanding”

9:12, 13 “If you are wise, you are wise for YOURSELF, if you scorn you alone will bear it and pay the penalty.”

31:10 “An ‘**excellent**’ wife (woman), who can find her”  
Capable, intelligent, virtuous woman. Amp strength, worth,  
Bravery, capability, valor, substance – a force to be contended with-  
Earnest and strong in character - same description of Israel’s judges.

12:4 “ A virtuous and worthy wife (woman) who is earnest and strong in character is the crown of her husband. ( a crowning joy) **But** she who causes shame is like **rottenness** (as a worm eating) in his bones.”



## THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Matthew 6:33

Seek (aim at and strive after) first of all the Kingdom of God and His righteousness ( His way of doing and being right) and all these things taken together will be given unto you.

Romans 14:17

For the Kingdom of God is not food and drink but  
(1) **Righteousness** (2) **Peace** and (3) **Joy** in the Holy Spirit

- I. Righteousness      RIGHT RELATIONSHIPS
  - 1. Our relationship with God
  - 2. Our relationship with ourselves
  - 3. Our relationships with our Neighbor (others)

with right relationships comes

II. Peace    with God, myself, others

III. Joy      In God, myself, others

IV. In the Holy Spirit (only possible by the Holy Spirit)

## Walk Worthy

Philippians 1:27

Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in **one spirit**, with **one mind**, striving **together** for the faith of the gospel. New King James

Only be sure as citizens so to conduct yourselves, that your manner of life will be **worthy** of the good news (the gospel) of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent. I may hear this of you: that you are standing firm in 'united' spirit and purpose, striving side by side and contending with a single mind for the faith of the glad tidings (the gospel) Amplified Bible

Philippians 3: 16,17

Only let us hold true to what we have already attained and **walk** and order our lives by that (truth)

Brethren, together follow my example and observe those who live after the pattern we have set for you.

Philippians 4:9

Practice what you have **learned** and **received** and **heard** and **seen** in In me and model your way of living on it, and the God of Peace (of untroubled, undisturbed well being) will be with you.

Ephesians 4:1, 2, 3

I therefore, the prisoner for the Lord, appeal to and beg you to **walk** (lead a life ) **worthy** of the (divine) calling to which you have been called. (with behavior that is a credit to the summons to God's service.

Living as becomes you with complete lowliness of mind (humility) and meekness, (unselfishness, gentleness, mildness) with patience, bearing with one another and making allowances because you love one another.

Be eager and strive earnestly to guard and keep the harmony and oneness of the Spirit in binding power of peace

Ephesians 5:8, 15, 17

For once you were darkness but now you are light in the Lord: **Walk** as children of Light (lead the lives of those native-born to the Light)

Look carefully then how you **walk!** Live purposefully and worthily and accurately, not as the unwise and witless, but as **wise** (sensible, intelligent people)

Therefore do not be vague and thoughtless and foolish, but understanding and firmly grasping what the will of the Lord is.

Colossians 1:9-12

That you may **walk** (live and conduct yourselves) in a manner worthy of the Lord.....

2:6

As you have therefore received Christ....**Walk**, (regulate your lives and conduct yourselves) in union with and conformity to Him

3:3, 12-17

**Clothe** yourselves therefore as God's own chosen ones.....

3:18-24

Wives.....

Husbands.....

Children.....

Servants.....

Titus 2: 1-15, 3:1-8

## Husband – Wife Relationship IN THE BEGINNING

“In the beginning” Adam and Eve had a complete “unity” of “purpose” and “direction” because their wills were completely in line with God’s will therefore they were in perfect “agreement” with each other. They were One in “Spirit” with one “mind”, striving “together for the faith of the “gospel” ie God’s Will.

As leaders of the church we husband and wives should have marriages that are “an example” to others that we might be a “pattern” for the marriages and families in our church. That we might say “Brethren, join in following “our example”. Therefore we should follow the blueprint or pattern God has given to us, which is HIS WORD.

Satan saw the power of this “unity” in man and woman -In perfect agreement with each other and God- He devised a “plan” to pit them against each other and against the purpose of God.

The plan of Satan was to convince Eve to **fulfill herself** first and to be independent of Adam and God.

When sin entered we became “**self-centered**” instead of **GOD** centered and therefore **other-centered**.

**No longer “striving together for the faith of the Gospel”  
GOD’S Purpose.**

**Self-Serving and Self-Fulfillment** became more important than fulfilling and serving each other.

When **Sin** entered Man and Woman became **self-centered**

Gen 3: 7,8 Because of Sin Adam and Eve 1<sup>st</sup> covered themselves from each other. 2<sup>nd</sup> they hid from God .  
They became confused as to who was the enemy.

Gen 3: 12,13 They refused to confess their sin and repent but instead, to **blame** and **justify** why and what they did.

WE must confess our sins to each other and God and repent and ask for forgiveness.

**But Now** because of **Jesus** we can return to “One Spirit, one mind” and strive **together** for the faith of the Gospel.

Jesus redeemed man back to God and restored the original relationship with God and restored to us the ability to be One with each other as in the Beginning before sin.

We can now return to God’s Original Blue Print for marriage and relationships and build on the principles of the Word of God with the Holy Spirit in us to renew our minds and empower us to once again be **other-centered** not self-centered  
**Interdependent** not independent

If we say we belong to Jesus Christ and are born of Him and have this Spiritual relationship with GOD. Then the first place it should be seen is in our relationship with each other.

A Husbands 1<sup>st</sup> earthly ministry is to his wife and children and then to others

Gen 18:19 Abraham commanded his children and household to keep ‘the way of the Lord’

Job 1:1 Job was blameless, upright, feared God and shunned evil  
:5 Job consecrated, (prayed and interceded for them) early in the morning and offered burnt sacrifices for them.

A wife’s 1<sup>st</sup> earthly ministry is to her husband and then her children and then others.

Proverbs 31:11, 12, 27

The heart of her husband trusts in her confidently and relies on and believes in her securely, so that he has no lack of honest gain or need of dishonest spoil. She comforts, encourages and does him only good as long as there is life within her.

She looks well to how things go in her household, and the bread of idleness (gossip, discontent and self-pity) she will not eat.

## PARENTING

Proverbs 22:6

“Train up a child in the way he should go: And when he is old he will not depart from it”

There is a distinction between **training** and **teaching**.

Many of us are **teaching** our children the way they should go, but are neglecting to **train** them in the way they should go. A child can be trained to respond to his parents in willing obedience and trust.

To **train**: “to mold the character, instruct by exercise, drill, to make obedient to orders, to put or point in an exact direction, to prepare for a contest. The contest of **LIFE**.”

We **all** train our children in some way or other, either consciously or unconsciously.

Samuel was trained to listen for and obey when spoken to:

The sons of Eli were disobedient and immoral. Eli taught them but he did not train them in the ways of the LORD. “They harkened not to the voice of their father”. “because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not: . He “honored his sons above the Lord”  
I Samuel 2:29

### HOW TO TRAIN ???

Proverbs 22:15 “Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him”

Proverbs 13:24 “He that spares his rod hates his son; but he that loves him is diligent to discipline him”

Proverbs 23:13,14 “Withhold not correction from the child, for if you beat him with the rod, he shall not die. You shall beat him with the rod and shall deliver his soul from hell”

Proverbs 29:15 “The rod and reproof give wisdom: But a child left to himself brings his mother to shame”

Proverbs 19:18 “Chasten your son while there is hope, and set not your heart on his destruction”

Proverbs 29: 17 "Correct your son and he shall give you rest; Yes, he shall give delight unto your soul."

DO I BELIEVE WHAT GOD'S WORD SAYS? Or Does our society know best?

Hebrews 12: 6,7

"For Whom the Lord loves he chastens and scourges every son whom he receives. If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons"

Proverbs 20: 30 "Blows that wound cleanse away evil: Strokes make clean the innermost parts"

Lamentations 3: 27 " It is good for a man that he bear his yoke in his youth"

The "rod" should **never** be associated with **anger, displeasure** or **rejection** because the parent chastens the child with a patient loving spirit in obedience to God. If we are continually nagging and scolding it becomes necessary to maintain a hostility to the child because he has not been corrected.

A child will learn that the rod is associated with our GREAT LOVE for him for his GOOD.

Just as God does for us as adults. Psalm 119: 65,71,75,

Suzanna Wesley said " I spank the loud one until she is quite and the quite one until he cries." Mother of 17 children and a preacher's wife.

INCONSISTENT use of the rod is NOT training.

**We must be consistent in WHY HOW and WHEN we discipline. We must first be consistent in our own behavior concerning our discipline. We must also be disciplined. (That is the hardest part)**

We must build the boundary fence for their safety not our convenience!

They will find a place of safety and freedom within the boundaries laid out by you and GOD'S WORD.

## SUBMISSION

The structure that supports the marriage

Submission is : **AN ATTITUDE OF THE HEART** where we are willing to put the other person's **needs, desires, rights, and reputation**, ahead of our own, in order to Honor Christ.

**Philippians: 2:1-8**

**Romans 12:3,10,17,18**

**Titus 3:1,2**

**Colossians3:17,18**

Submission is a **choice** that we make  
An assigned place as in the military ie ICor:11:3

Submission's Results:

Personal growth and fulfillment

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|---------------------|----------------------|
| a. growth in Christ | Jn 14:21             |
| b. Joy              | Ps 16:11 Eph 5:18-21 |
| c. Peace            | Gal 5:22 Phil 4:6,7  |
| d. Beauty           | I Pet 3:3,4          |
| e. Strength         | Phil 4:13            |
| f. God's Protection | Ps 91:1, I Cor 10:13 |
| g. Freedom          | II Cor 3:7           |
| h. Love             | Gal 5:22             |
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### **Helpmeet, helper:**

One who helps her husband become all that God intended him to be,  
By becoming all that God intended for her to be.

A helpmeet :

- Believes in you
- Accepts you as you are
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- Is interested in you
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Submission is LOVE in ACTION, it communicates to your husband that he is more valuable and his needs are more important than yours.



## THE DIVINE ORDER

“Christ is the head of every man, the head of a woman is her husband, and the Head of Christ is GOD”

I Cor. 11:3

Christ, who is God and equal with the Father, is subject to the Father. The man is subject to those in authority over him: God, and others (government, police, employer) although all men are equal.

The wife is subject to her husband, though she is his equal. The children are subject to parents, though they are not inferior. God uses this order of authority to protect and provide us with maximum happiness.

### **Submission:**

Is the wife's responsibility. Ephesians 5:22,23

She is commanded by scripture to make herself submissive:

I Peter 3:1-6, I Cor 11:3,8,9, I Tim 2:11-12, Titus 2:2-4, Col 3:17,18,23

When you willingly, lovingly submit to your husband, your spirit of gentleness and love inspires your husband to treat you gently and cherish and protect you.

It is an assigned position (you are not forced to take it but it is a choice you make- as making Christ LORD).

Scripture indicates a wife's submission is to be a continuous (on going) life style. Greek verb is in present tense.

It is mandatory, not optional, Greek verb is imperative mood a command.

Your submission is not based upon the way a husband treats her nor His abilities, talents, wisdom, education, or spiritual state.

Submission is a spiritual matter, it “is to be done as unto the Lord”. Refusal to submit to the husband is therefore rebellion against God himself.

Submission to the husband is a test of her love for God Col. 3:17

Submission means that the wife puts all her talents, abilities, resources, energy at her husband's disposal. The wife yields and uses all of her abilities under the management of her husband for the good of her husband and family. She is her husband's teammate striving for the same goal.

### Helpmeet

A helpmeet:

Believes in him / Accepts him as he is / Understands him /  
Is interested in him

A helpmeet is : The **Key** to the **Lock**, the **film** to the **camera**

AS a WIFE: God's purpose and plan for you is to minister to your husband first. ICor.11:9 Jesus is our example Phil. 2:1-7

Ways a wife may "**HELP**" her husband Prov. 31:11,12

1. Make the home a safe place, a place of encouragement, comfort and understanding, a place of refuge.
2. be trustworthy and dependable Prov. 31:11,12
3. Maintain a good attitude Phil. 4:5-8
4. Discuss things lovingly, openly, honestly Prov. 12:14
5. Be satisfied with your position, possessions and your tasks. Phil 4:11,13
6. Be long suffering, forgiving, forbearing Eph 4:2,3,31,32
7. Show interest in his problems, concerns, job, hobbies
8. be industrious, frugal, and diligent Prov 31:12,22,19,24
9. Offer suggestion, advice and correction in a loving fashion. Prov 31:26
10. Keep yourself attractive and maintain inner beauty Prov 31:30
11. Maintain a healthy spiritual life
12. co-operate with him in raising the children Prov 31:28
13. Build Loyalty to him within the children and others. The wife's attitude towards the husband is quietly picked up by the children.
14. Be grateful Prov 31:20,27
15. Show confidence in his decisions Prov 31:23,25

These communicate to your husband that he is more valuable and his needs are more important than yours.

## Helpmeet

Wise	Foolish
1. Supporter	Opposes
2. Completes	Competitor
3. Adapter	Self-server
4. Protector	Exposes
5. Pursuer	Tormentor

Submission is giving:

In a relationship of submission, my question is "What are your desires, needs, and how can I serve you?"

WHEN a man is the center of his wife's life, he will rarely seek out another woman. Sex is seldom the primary reason for a man's promiscuity. He is usually looking for a woman who will #1 accept him as he is, #2 admire him #3 need him and #4 give him first place in her life.

### A WIFE'S PRIMARY MINISTRY IN LIFE IS HER HUSBAND

1. God made the woman to be man's helper: Man was incomplete without woman Gen 2:18
2. God made her to be a suitable helper: Eph 5:22, I Pet 3:1
3. She was created to correspond to man: She is his complement, as a key to a lock or film to a camera – indispensable
4. The wife was made to fulfill the needs, the lacks, the inadequacies of her husband "to do him **good** and not evil all the days of her life" Prov 31:12

She should never do anything which would be detrimental or harmful to her husband or her ministry to her husband.

## Seven Basic Needs of a Husband/ Bricks that build a Marriage

1. A Husband needs a wife who respects Him as a man
2. Needs a wife who accepts him as a leader
3. a wife who is grateful for all He has done and is doing for her.
4. a wife who will be praised by other people for her character and good works.
5. A wife who continues to develop inward and outward beauty.
6. A wife who can lovingly appeal to him.
7. A wife who provides and allows him to have quality time alone with God.

### **B E S T**

**BLESS      EDIFY      SHARE      TOUCH**

Prescription for a Superb Marriage:

**BLESSING** (eulogia)- eu "well" logos "word" Prov 18:20,21

1. The first way of blessing your spouse is to speak well of him and to respond with good words. Eph 4:29 amp Prov 16:24

The Prov 31:26 woman receives praise because she opens her mouth in wisdom and the law of kindness is on her tongue.

You have the power to BLESS your marriage by the words you speak to your partner. You may also bless by learning when to be silent. Prov 13:3

2. You bless by bestowing practical benefits upon him, ie kind deeds
3. By showing thankfulness and appreciation by expressing it verbally
4. You bless by calling God's favor down in prayer. Luke 16:27,28,35

Good Word

Kind Actions

Thankful appreciation

Prayer

**EDIFY** To Build up

Build up your husband in every aspect of his personality, cheering him on in every area of life, increasing his sense of self-worth.

The result of edifying is that his capacity to love and give of himself would be increased.

Edifying is for personal encouragement, inner strengthening and establishment of peace and harmony between individuals

“So let us then definitely aim for and eagerly pursue what makes for harmony and mutual up building (edification and development) of one another” Rom 14:19 amp

“Let each one of us make it a practice to please (make happy) his neighbor for his good and for his true welfare. To edify him, that is to strengthen him and build him up spiritually” Rom 15:2 amp

The husband edifies his wife by praising her

The wife edifies her husband by her loving response to him

Edification builds up **never** tears down !!!

Phil 4:8 practice thinking about things you find attractive in your mate, Every positive quality your husband possesses.

Let your words be governed by this verse.

What can I say to my spouse that will edify, build up, encourage, strengthen and bring peace.

Both husband and wife have a tremendous need for encouragement by word, by focused attention and by eye contact, and loving touch.

**GREEK word for Edify- oikodomeo- oikos “family, home, house and demo “build” While you are edifying and building each other up, you are building a home together.**

## Sharing

Sharing should touch all areas of life – your time, activities, interest, and concerns, ideas, innermost thoughts, spiritual walk, family objectives, and goals.

Shared time, shared activities, shared interests and shared experiences lead to shared feelings and shared confidences.

When you do share your feelings, wait for the right time and circumstances. Present your feelings as logically as you can.

Try using “feeling word pictures”

Feeling words related to a man’s interest or past experiences:

- I feel like I’m a sixty-minute cassette tape and you play me romantically at night like I’m a ten minute tape.
- I feel like a towel after a full day of washing a dirty truck
- I feel like a 2 hour old Mc Donald’s hamburger ie **cold**
- I feel like a worm after catching a big fish
- I feel like a golf ball after 18 holes for one important tournament, discarded or ignored.

Communication is the ability:

1. To share in such a way that the other person can understand and accept what is being said.
2. Listening in order to reflect back both the meaning and feeling of what was expressed.

WE communicate:

**words 7%**

**TONE 38%**

**BODY LANGUAGE 55%**

## Touching

A touch tells us we are cared for, calms our fears, soothes pain, brings comfort, gives us the blessed satisfaction of emotional security.

Sharing affection through simple touch will meet many of the emotional needs that sex will not provide. No wonder experts believe that our extreme preoccupation with sex in this society is actually an expression of our deep, unsatisfied need for the warmth, reassurance and intimacy of nonsexual touching.

**NINE WAYS TO EDIFY**  
"Love Life" by Dr. Ed. Wheat

1. Make the irrevocable decision to never again be critical of your partner in word, thought, or deed. A decision backed up by action!
2. Study your partner- become sensitive to areas where your partner feels a lack and think of ways to build him up
3. Think every day of positive qualities and behavior patterns you admire and appreciate in your mate.
4. Consistently verbalize praise and appreciation. Be genuine, be specific, be generous, you edify with the "Spoken" Word.
5. Communicate your respect for His work
6. Show your husband he is the most important person in your life- always seek his opinions, value his judgments
7. Respond physically and facially.
8. Always exhibit the greatest courtesy to each other.
9. Husbands show your wife private and public affection.

I Peter 3:9-12    Rom 12:14-21

## 6 Inner Beauty Qualities

### 1. Courage:

The inner commitment to pursue a worthwhile goal without giving up hope.

When a woman's hope for a better marriage has faded, her attractiveness to her husband diminishes and the life of the relationship gradually declines.

1<sup>st</sup> step to increasing your courage is to commit to actively pursuing a more fulfilling relationship.

2<sup>nd</sup> step is to endure the pressure. Commit yourself to endure the pressure.

### 2. Persistence:

Continue to pursue until the goal is achieved

### 3. Gratefulness:

Sincere appreciation for the benefits you have gained from others  
Be grateful for how and who He is.

Expectations are a destructive force yn your marriage.

### 4. Calmness:

Inner peace that allows you to respond quietly to a stressful situation without fear.

Control you tendency to over react ie a "meek and quiet spirit"

### 5. Gentleness:

Showing tender consideration for the feelings of another

The more we value something, the more gentle we will be in handling it.

### 6. Unselfish Love:

Action directed toward fulfilling another person's needs

3 kinds of Love:

1. Affection- based upon someone meeting our needs or living up to our expectations.

2. Passion- centered around our need for sexual fulfillment

3. Genuine Love- searches for the needs of others and seeks opportunities to meet those needs.

➔ Genuine Love says "I see your need, please allow me to meet it"

An action directed toward fulfilling the needs of another.



## MARRIAGEABILITY TRAITS

### 1. Adaptability and Flexibility

being able to adjust to change

Ex. 2 rivers coming together at first are rapids, turbulent, roaring at each other, But out the joining together it becomes broader, deeper and more powerful than each was on it's own.

### 2. Empathy

the ability to be sensitive to the needs, hurts, and desires of others, feeling with them experiencing their world from their perspective.

### 3. Ability to work through problems

accepting and properly dispelling and controlling their emotional reactions and clarify and define their problems and work together.

### 4. Ability to give and receive love

To give verbally and visually, physically and to receive love as it is given.

### 5. Emotional stability

Consistent, dependable emotional response.

### 6. Similarities between the couple themselves

Their interest, likes, dislikes, friends, educational level, religion, and culture.

### 7. Communication

The ability to share in such a way that the other person can understand and accept what is be said.

Listening in order to reflect back both the meaning and feeling of what was expressed.

Couples who have reported happy marriages appear to concentrate their energy on their 'relationship'. Those who are less happy-concentrate on situational aspects of marriage, such as the home, children, or social life as sources of martial happiness.

## BASIC RULES FOR COMMUNICATING

### 1. Steps to building communication:

Be teachable Prov. 13:-18, 18:2, 25:12

Be sensitive/sympathetic Prov. 12:25, 25:20 Rom.12:15, IPet3

Be positive Prov 18:8, 20:19, 31:11, James 4:11

Be available

Be interested Prov. 15:14, 18:15

Learn to listen James 1:19

Be accepting, be genuinely interested in others, ask good questions, watch for non-verbal cues, concentrate, do not interrupt.

Learn to speak Prov. 15:28, 16:13, 21-24

Speak softly Prov. 9:13, 15:1,4 25:15

Speak thoughtfully Prov 10:19, 11:12, 12:23, 17:27

Learn value of silence Prov 13:3.18:13

Speak with Love Rom 13:8, 19, Eph 4:29 amp

Be honest Eph 4:15

Be sensitive to God's timing

Learn to avoid a fight Psa 141:3, Prov 14:29, 17:14, Prov 18:1, 20:3

### 2. Barriers to a good communication:

Foolishness

Pride

My Opinion

Betraying a confidence

Haste

Anger

Ref: Prov. 12:15, 16:18, 18:2, 25:9, 29:20, 14:7,29, 15:18, 22:24,25, 29:22, 16:32, 19:11

Ecc 7:9, Col 3:8, James 1:19,20 AMP & NIV

### 3. What does our speech reveal about us? Matt 12:34-36

How does God want us to speak?

How is our will involved in our speech?

## BRICKS THAT BUILD A MARRIAGE

I PETER 3:1-6

### BEHAVIOR

I Peter 3:1,2      I Tim 2:9,10

Husband "observes" your "behavior"

A close look, absorbed in it, focusing full attention on your  
Behavior

The silent preaching of a lovely life (wife) James 2:14, 3:13,14

**I. A wife needs to treat her husband with respect** and be respectful, your behavior should say to him, "I respect you as a man". (respect)

A. You need his protection-physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually. Your behavior should not be self-sufficient. Independence will destroy a marriage. (defer to) bring before a judge

B. You need to look to him for basic provisions  
(Dependent) (appreciate)

C. Never show greater honor, or loyalty to another person  
A pastor, teacher, spiritual leaders, relatives or friends (esteem)  
(adore)

D. Allow him to make final decisions without resisting his spirit, or arguing. (be devoted)

E. Rejecting him physically is destructive to his manhood.  
(deeply love)

F. Allow him room to fail, you continue to express support and encouragement. (enjoy)

**II. You as wife must accept him as a leader** and believe in Him (admire). Psalm 15

A. Admire Him when he:  
Walks uprightly, blameless  
Works righteousness, justice  
Speaks and thinks truth in his heart (honesty)  
Will not slander or gossip  
Honors Godly men, despises evil men  
Keeps promises that cost him  
Does not take advantage of people  
Can not be bribed  
Changes not to his own hurt

People are attracted to those who admire them and repelled by those who belittle or look down on them

B. His leadership abilities will be reinforced by your praise, be verbal and specific.

C. Be attentive to him, pay him attention when he is speaking to someone else or to you, your admiration will be reflected in your face as you listen to Him. Reflect what a 'prize" I have!

### Ways to express admiration for your husband

1. Begin to seek your husband's advice and opinions
2. Make an effort to remember your husband's past requests and desires and begin to fulfill them when possible
3. Look for occasional opportunities to draw attention to your husband's positive qualities when you are with other people, to the children and family. Not his negative points!
4. Make an effort to gain an appreciation for your husband's occupation, Hobbies, try to understand how important he feels his job activities are.

\* Nothing destroys a man's self esteem more than to hear his wife cutting down his efforts to support her.

5. Carefully consider what your husband says without negative reactions- open minded listening
6. Do not let a day pass without expressing appreciation for at least one thing your husband has said or done during those 24 hours.
7. Use your sensitivity to detect your husband's personal goals and lend him your support as he pursues them.
8. Begin to admire your husband in non verbal ways. His concerns when he comes home, his favorite meal, listen attentively, focus your eyes on him. When he does talk to you, do not make him compete with children, TV, dishes etc.
9. Genuinely desire and seek your husband's forgiveness when you offend him. Admit "I was wrong" can you forgive me?

### III. You need to be a wife who is Praised by others

I Tim 2:9,10 ...as benefits women who “profess” reverential fear for and devotion to GOD.

1. Praised by others for your good works and character. Prov. 31:31  
The woman reflects her husband. I Cor 11:7 ..the woman is the glory of man.

A. Praised by Spiritual leaders:

- For knowing their needs
- Wisdom and discretion
- For your love for your husband and children
- For you submission and obedience to husband
- For you high morals
- For you home management

B. Your children should praise you

- For your Godly influence on others
- Your harmony with your husband
- Your diligence, thriftiness and wise home management
- For your wisdom and kindness

C. Neighbors should praise you

- For your generosity to the poor and needy
- For your hospitality
- For relieving the afflicted

D. The church should praise you

- For practical care of the saints
- Faithfulness to marriage vows
- Your ability to teach the younger women

Proverbs 12:4

A virtuous and worthy wife – earnest and strong in character-  
Is a crowning joy to her husband, but she who makes him ashamed is  
as rottenness in his bones.

## Bricks that build a marriage

### 1. **Appearance:** inner attitudes makes physical beauty

Your hair and dress are a symbol of your husband's taste, standards and provisions.

The appearance of the Home is a symbol of his wisdom, provision and protection. His home is the setting of his treasures.

The wife's spirit sets the atmosphere of the home, It is a heaven to come home to or a hell.

### 2. **Attitude:** I Peter 3:4

#### A. A GENTLE AND QUITE SPIRIT

No struggle or contention

Gentle- imperishable, can't be erased, passed over, or destroyed

Strength of character, strong self control, quite elegance and dignity, tranquil and under control, causing no disturbances to others

Meekness= yielding rights and expectations to God

Quite spirit= conquering fear and worry, free from panic or irritation

#### B. A GRATEFUL SPIRIT

Give all expectations to God Psalm 62:5

Expect nothing= be grateful for anything and everything, any evidence of your husband's love.

Learn contentment with Godliness I Tim 6:6-11 amp

### 3. **Response** responding instead of reacting Prov 25:15

Sarah obeyed Abraham "obeyed" to pay close attention to someone

The idea of attending to the needs of another, a positive, helpful response

#### A. Learn the principles of appealing to God (about your Husband)

Be in right standing with God

Have the right motives

A correct attitude (no unforgiveness, no sin)

Be honest, accurate with God

Be willing to make sacrifices

#### B. Apply same principles to appeal to Husband

#### C. Learn insights form Godly women, Esther=wise appeal,

Ruth= Loyalty, Sarah= Obedient spirit

## Battlegrounds

In-Laws  
Children  
Finances  
Sex

A Battleground is where two enemies come together to fight out their differences.

**Parents and In-laws** should not be "in" the marriage or on the COURT of our MARRIAGE. In a marriage only 2 can play the game, everyone else are spectators.

It is my responsibility to get my parents off my side of the marriage: I have the relationship with them, I belong to them.

Age and or Distance do not matter Parents can still be on the court.

In-law problems are actually Parent/child problems

Ways that parents stay in the marriage: money, gifts, business, religion, standards, traditions, holidays, grand children, illness.

If you husband has to compete with your Parents, he loses. If the husband does not feel that he is "first place" with his wife he will resent **whatever or whoever** has put him out of "**first place**".

The "two shall become one" Anything that comes between you will knock him out of "first Place".

**Children**, can displace the husband with the wife's: time, attention, devotion, affection and unconditional love. Children know when and how to divide and conquer. Putting you husband first shows the children that the Husband, Father is the head of the family. This will bring them security.

Couples usually disagree on the discipline of children. We each compensate for the weakness of the other. When in doubt, follow the lead of your husband.

**Finances**, can be a way for a husband to 'feel' in control and in charge. We as wives must not usurp his need to feel he is the Provider of the family. It is ok to be a HELPMATE in this area if he is not the best to handle finances. Most problems in money could be settled by having a written budget. The 'budget' then decides how and where the money is to be spent. A woman should be well informed regarding the family finances. How, when, where, who etc.

**SEX**

Sexual activity builds a man's self esteem, his manhood when he feels weak, insecure, helpless, or depressed. He needs your participation not just your body! He needs to know you enjoy his body. I Cor 7:11

A man is usually instant to a touch, picture, a look and he is ready to engage in intercourse.

What sex means to a man:

If a man relates well in bed he will relate well anywhere else.

A man who is satisfied in sex develops self confidence in other areas.

A man can endure any failure in life if he is successful in Bed.

If he is not successful in sex he will not feel successful anywhere.

During a crisis a man will need to make love to draw strength from his wife.

King David during his son's illness fasted and prayed but upon his death David washed, ate and went into his wife for comfort, strength renewal, confidence to be built up as a man. (friend's baby died)

A man has needs that someone must meet. Intercourse relieves tiredness and stress. It recharges him as a man. It makes him feel complete and whole as a man.

A woman needs time to mentally prepare. She must give thought to pursuing the moment. A woman must prepare and concentrate during sex. She must control her mind and thoughts or she will feel used and abused. She will resent her husband and he will not know the reason why.

A woman wants to be loving but she knows if she touches him he will want to make love. Example of black cat

I have a yes gown and a no gown. 'No' gown is my flannel one.

A woman usually needs conversation or sleep at bedtime.

**Key to love making: attitude**

My response to love making is not his responsibility, it is mine.

If he needs to be educated then educate him to what is pleasing to you or not. He can not read your mind!



**1 Peter 3:1-6 amp**

3:1 IN LIKE manner, you married women, be submissive to your own husbands [subordinate yourselves as being secondary to and dependent on them, and adapt yourselves to them], so that even if any do not obey the Word [of God], they may be won over not by discussion but by the [godly] lives of their wives,

2 When they observe the pure and modest way in which you conduct yourselves, together with your reverence [for your husband; you are to feel for him all that reverence includes: to respect, defer to, revere him — to honor, esteem, appreciate, prize, and, in the human sense, to adore him, that is, to admire, praise, be devoted to, deeply love, and enjoy your husband].

3 Let not yours be the [merely] external adorning with [elaborate] interweaving and knotting of the hair, the wearing of jewelry, or changes of clothes;

4 But let it be the inward adorning and beauty of the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible and unfading charm of a gentle and peaceful spirit, which [is not anxious or wrought up, but] is very precious in the sight of God.

5 For it was thus that the pious women of old who hoped in God were [accustomed] to beautify themselves and were submissive to their husbands [adapting themselves to them as themselves secondary and dependent upon them].

6 It was thus that Sarah obeyed Abraham [following his guidance and acknowledging his headship over her by] calling him lord (master, leader, authority). And you are now her true daughters if you do right and let nothing terrify you [not giving way to hysterical fears or letting anxieties unnerve you]

AMP