

The Path -

Day 31: Principles for having a Christian home Pt 6

Principle #3 Keep your responsibilities within the marriage

Fifth Responsibility: Accept the God given roles that God has given to each spouse for the order of the family (continued)

1. A wife has been given the role of supporter

- a. Ephesians 5:22-24 “Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the _____. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and He is the savior of the body.”
- b. Note: The wife is to show her submission to the Lord by being submissive to her own husband
- c. Why is the husband chosen to be the leader, and the wife the follower?
 - i. There has to be a leader and a follower in every institution
 - ii. God designated the man to be the leader from the beginning. In Genesis 2:18 we read:
 1. “And the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.”
 - iii. Eve was told by God in Genesis 3:16 “...thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.”
 - iv. It is often harder to be a good follower than to be a good leader. The husband knows he has a God given responsibility of leading the home. He also knows that he cannot lead if the wife is not a willing follower.

2. A wife has been given the role of “Keepers of the Home”

- a. Titus 2:4-5 “That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, _____ at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.” There are many qualities mentioned above that are necessary to keep the home.

- b. “Sober” - “To be realistic, in control of one’s appetites and passions.” Examples: Not emotionally out of control. Knowing what can be afforded and what cannot be.
- c. “Love husbands” - To be devoted to her husband. Show love in small and large ways. Listen. Offer words of encouragement. Give acts of service.
- d. “Love children” - Care for their needs, emotional and physical. Children must have physical touch, hugging, as well as words of encouragement. Love them by setting limits on their behavior. Love them by communicating your high expectations for them.
- e. “Discreet” - “Having good judgement, not pretentious” Example: Think before you speak and act
- f. “Chaste” - “Pure in thought and act; modest.” Example: Give no room for doubt regarding actions or intentions. Have the “ornament of a meek and quiet spirit” (1 Peter 3:4)
- g. “Good” - This is the Greek root word for goodness, a fruit of the Spirit. Jesus went about doing “good things”. He was proactive in doing these things. He did not wait to respond to live, but he caused good to happen by his actions.
- h. “Obedient to their own husbands” - Willing, not forced submission

3. A wife is given the responsibility of affecting her family with her spirit and attitude

- a. Unbelieving husbands can be won to God by the attitude of his wife.
 - i. 1 Peter 3:1-4 “Likewise ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives: While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that _____ adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be that hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.” The word “conservation” means behavior. The behavior of the wife should be “chaste”, pure in thought and act; and it should be respectful (coupled with fear). Peter continues that she should have an attractive meek (not angry) and quiet spirit.
- b. Paul taught that women should dress modestly in 1 Timothy 2:9-10:
 - i. “In like manner also, that women adorn themselves with _____ apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.” A woman’s attitude is shown by her external dress and her good works.



Discussion:

- 1. Why should a wife be a willing follower to her husband?**
- 2. When, if ever, should a wife not follow her husband?**
- 3. How can a wife be a willing follower of her husband?**
- 4. How can a wife follow but still have her full input into the decisions and directions of the home?**
- 5. How can a wife be a good “keeper of the home”?**
- 6. How can a wife affect a home by her spirit and attitude?**