

“Husbands, Love Your Wives”

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Easy a Man, Difficult a Woman

A brand new store has just opened in New York City that sells Husbands.

When women go to choose a husband, they have to follow the instructions at the entrance:

"You may visit this store ONLY ONCE!" There are 6 floors and the value of the products increase as you ascend the flights. You may choose any item from a particular floor, or may choose to go up to the next floor, but you CANNOT go back down except to exit the building! So, a woman goes to the Husband Store to find a husband.

On the 1st floor the sign on the door reads:
Floor 1 - These men have jobs.

The 2nd floor sign reads:
Floor 2 - These men Have Jobs and Love Kids.

The 3rd floor sign reads:
Floor 3 - These men Have Jobs, Love Kids and are extremely good looking.
"Wow," she thinks, but feels compelled to keep going.

Easy a Man, Difficult a Woman

She goes to the 4th floor and the sign reads:

Floor 4 - These men Have Jobs, Love Kids, are Drop-dead Good Looking and Help with Housework.

"Oh, mercy me!" she exclaims, "I can hardly stand it!"

Still, she goes to the 5th floor and sign reads:

Floor 5 - These men Have Jobs, Love Kids, are Drop-dead Gorgeous, help with Housework and Have A Strong Romantic Streak.

She is so tempted to stay, but she goes to the 6th floor and the sign reads:

Floor 6 - You are visitor **31,456,012** to this floor.

There are no men on this floor. This floor exists solely as proof that women are impossible to please. Thank you for shopping at the Husband Store.

Easy a Man, Difficult a Woman

To avoid gender bias charges, the store's owner opens a New Wives store just across the street.

The 1st floor has wives that love sex.

The 2nd floor has wives that love sex and have money.

The 3rd through 6th floors have never been visited.

Ephesians - Chapter 5:25-33

25. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her

26. to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word,

27. and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

28. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.

29. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church-

30. for we are members of his body.

31. "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."

32. This is a profound mystery-but I am talking about Christ and the church.

33. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself...

A Path of Discussion

- Importance of Three fold cord (*movie pitch*)
- Financially loving my wife
- Emotionally loving my wife
- Communicatively loving my wife
- Hedges that grow and show love
- The Great Mystery

Ecclesiastes 4:12

"A THREEFOLD CORD IS NOT EASILY BROKEN."

Ropemakers almost always use three strands to twist ropes together. The reason for this is because **the maximum number of strands that can be wrapped together and still all touch each other is THREE.** When you draw perfect circles of the same size and put them together, you can only get three to all touch each other. A ROPE OF THREE STRANDS CANNOT EASILY BE BROKEN. IT IS STRONG. IT IS SAFE. And when it comes to divine guidance, SAFETY is what we're pursuing. A marriage is between three persons, not two. God is the third person who keeps strength in the marriage when the two are going through stresses. Ignoring this fact of the three touching is why marriages are falling apart today.

Bishop T. D. Jakes has recently released a movie, "Not Easily Broken" that highlights the effectiveness of the three-fold cord of marriage. I would highly recommend you and family view this film. Many issues affecting our families is dealt with in this film. The bishop asks the wife an important question in this film. Don't miss it!

Loving Financially

- Security is important to wives overall
- Secure 'house' account with reporting features included
- “Slush fund” dignity
- Save for a rainy day at all cost
- Find a creative way to make her cooperation attractive

Loving Emotionally

- Learn to shop with wife if need be . . . (*give your life for your wife*)
- **DO NOT FORGET WIFE'S BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY** (*Shows how much you value your relationship with wife*)
- Be cognizant of change in **seasons** of your wife's life
- Give love each day as you leave and return to your home (a kiss, *send a card, email, etc.*)

Loving Communicatively

- Engage in conversation with your wife every day if possible (plan a mini-vacation, ask about her day, discuss a point of scripture, etc.)
- Call her if you will be late arriving home (careful about texting, she wants to hear your voice), use **terms of endearment** wisely
- Learn the value of words (*language of love*) to nurture, not tear down relationship (see *Language of Love* by Gary Smalley)

Hedges for our Love

- Learn to listen to your wife particularly when it comes to **other** women's behavior (*sixth sense*)
- Do not attend frequent or infrequent liaisons with other women (*not related to you*) for lunch or other social settings alone
- Seek counseling situations that involve you and spouse if possible (*be wise*)

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A Beautiful Picture

- God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam (Gen. 2:21)
- While Adam slept, God created from his wounded side, a wife, who was part of himself, and he paid for her by the shedding of blood
- ...This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man
- Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh (Gen. 2:23, 24)

The Last Adam

- The Apostle Paul speaking of the union of believers in Christ says . . . “For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones (Eph. 5:30)
- This is a direct reference to the words of Adam, “she is bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh”
- Then Paul quotes from Genesis saying, “For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church (Eph. 5:31, 32)
- Now all is clear. Adam is a picture of the Lord Jesus, who left His Father’s house to gain His bride at the price of His own life

The Last Adam, part 2

- Jesus, the last Adam, like the first, must be put to sleep to purchase His Bride, the Church
- His side too was opened after He had fallen asleep, and from that wounded side redemption flowed

The Great Mystery

- This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church (Ephesians 5:32)
- The mystery Paul speaks of is that Jesus Christ, the spotless Son of God, should be willing to leave his Father's house and come into a world to save a filthy, fallen, unfaithful "wife", even by dying on the cross for her

Love Caused Adam's Sin

- Adam is the federal head (head of Eve) as the tempter comes to Eve (Eve was formed after the prohibition to Adam)
- Eve is tempted, sins, and falls as an individual alone
- Adam is not immediately a fallen being, but he must decide what to do about his Eve
- Satan uses Adam's love to cause him to fall; meanwhile Eve is facing death alone should Adam do nothing, an infinite gulf separates them
- If Eve is to be saved, she must have a Redeemer (her seed), but this cannot happen without a husband to conceive this seed. Eve cannot be raised to Adam's level, so Adam deliberately, willingly, and with full knowledge became a sinner (ate the forbidden fruit) in order to save his wife through a Redeemer (1 Tim. 2:12, 13, 15)

Love Caused Adam's Sin

- Therefore Adam left his father and mother (*Holy Spirit if you can hear this*) to be joined to his wife and they both were one flesh
- Likewise, Jesus left His Father and Mother's house in Heaven and came to be joined to His Bride (Church) so that they two could become one flesh
- For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church (Eph. 5:31, 32)

Any Questions?

“Love Caused Adam’s Sin”
adapted from Martin Ralph DeHaan, MD
Portraits of Christ in Genesis

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Thanks for your kind attention, cheers!