



# *Mothers of Teens*

September 15, 2019 | Lesson 3

## *Recommended Listening:*

2007—*Loving Husbands and Being Subject to Husbands*; 2011—*Love and Submission*;  
2015—*Love and Submission*

## *Love and Submission to Your Husband*

Mary Diachenko

### Memory Verses:

*Watch over your heart with all diligence,  
for from it flow the springs of life.*

Proverbs 4:23

*But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God,  
who gives to all generously and without  
reproach, and it will be given to him.*

*But he must ask in faith.*

James 1:5-6a

## Introduction

- What did the Apostle Paul send Titus to do in Crete?

He sent Titus a letter telling him, among other things, to set in order what remains, to appoint elders in every city, and to “*speaking the things fitting for sound doctrine.*”

Crete was a wicked, godless place. It sounds just like the times we live in today.

So, were the things Titus was to teach attainable? ABSOLUTELY!!! The book of Titus was written “for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness.” Titus was going to be teaching first generation Christians how to live to glorify God. These people had the Holy Spirit in their hearts and were able, by God's grace, to follow God's instructions.

Our times are not any worse than other godless times in history. We can still do God's will today and know that He is with us!

- Why are we memorizing the above verses?

Everything we do depends on our heart attitude. We must constantly guard our hearts and strive to have them in tune with God's will for us. We also must believe God when He tells us to ask Him for wisdom. He has promised to give it.

- Love and submission to our husbands is God's non-negotiable for us.
- If we follow God's teaching for wives in Titus 2 the word of God will not be dishonored.
- This is your time to obey God in loving and submitting to your own husband.

## A. *Love your husband*

Titus 2:4 says, “so that they may encourage the young women to **love** their husbands.” The word for **love** here is used only one time in the NT.

“to be fond of their husbands”

(Wuest New Testament: An Expanded Translation)

This is a unique love, because a husband and wife are in a one-flesh relationship.

*For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.* Genesis 2:24

Catechism card #21

*Marriage of God's making is the joining by covenant of one male and one female to become one flesh until parted by death.*

1. Tune your heart to his heart. You know him better than anyone else. You are his companion for life. Let him know he's first in your heart.
2. Serve him well.

*I am on assignment from God to help my husband. ~Elizabeth George*

Do this for Christ. A servant heart is something to be prized. We are selfish by nature. Developing a sweet spirit out of a genuine love for your husband will go a long way toward serving him.

One of the reasons Elizabeth George's book, *A Woman After God's Own Heart*, is a blessing is that it's a testimony of how God worked in her life after she became a Christian. She prayed and read God's word and determined to follow it! It completely changed her life. If you've never read this book, I highly recommend it.

3. Develop the habit of thinking about him and praying for him during the day. Help your children learn to pray for their dad to have strength and wisdom in his job. They don't need to know personal things, but there are many things that they can pray for.
4. Plan ways to make coming home a blessing.

*If I can just get home, everything  
will be all right. ~Jim George*

Even if you have a job outside the home you can still have your heart at home.

If your husband has to be late, wait up for him and welcome him home.



5. Make time to give him your undivided attention. Children usually have your attention throughout the day, so make sure your husband can have it too. Keep him #1 on your list of priorities.

On a date you could go shopping somewhere that he enjoys like looking at tools or enjoying sporting goods at Cabella's. As much as you are able enjoy what he enjoys. He may like doing some things on his own, so respect that also. My husband is a wood-worker and enjoys spending some time alone in his shop planning and building. I can always get him a cold drink of diet coke (for him) or a nice glass of cold water when he comes in.

By the way, do your walls have ears? We found out after our kids were grown that they could hear our conversations many times even when we were behind closed doors. Be careful where and when you talk!

6. Look for ways to “be there” for him.

### *Some danger areas:*

- Putting your affection on your children before your husband. This is especially easy to do when you have teens. If you consistently do this now you won't have a good relationship with your husband when they're out of the home.
- Always deferring to them over your husband's preferences. For instance, where do you want to go for a family time? What movie would everyone want to watch on family night or what game shall we play? Work it out with your husband to decide these things and when he wants to leave it to your kids.

- Being a perfectionist. Your husband can't be “at home” in his own home because you're always straightening things behind him. It is important to care about your home and try to keep it neat and tidy.
- Being upset if he's spoiled a special treat you had for him like having his favorite supper, but he couldn't make it home in time. Don't make him feel like he's a failure.
- Thinking he can read your mind. He didn't get that special birthday gift you've been hinting at for some time or wasn't being thoughtful the way you think he should.

## *B. Submit to and respect your husband*

Ephesians 5:22 *Wives, be subject* (be submissive and adapt yourselves) *to your own husbands as [a service] to the Lord.* (AMP Bible)

Ephesians 5:33b *“and let the wife see that she respects and reverences her husband* [that she notices him, regards him, honors him, prefers him, venerates, and esteems him; and that she defers to him, praises him, and loves and admires him exceedingly]. (AMP Bible)

*God works through my husband for my good.*

1. Who do we arrange ourselves under? **Our own husbands.**

Remember that God made a help suitable for Adam and brought her to him.

2. Ephesians 5:22 tells us to do this ***“as to the Lord.”***

If we truly fear the Lord, we'll do what He says, because it is right.

3. Ephesians 5:24 says ***“But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in **everything**.”***  
We are not to be afraid of following our husbands.

- Show your husband your respect. Think of him with love. Listen to him. Ask him what his desires are for your home. Communicate with him. Show your children that he is your #1 priority.
- Don't try to “fix” him. You arrange yourself under him.
- Pray for him. He has a lot of weight on his shoulders
- Don't correct him all the time. It would be helpful to **listen to yourself** for one week to see if you're doing this. Listen for things like correcting his driving (maybe he likes to go a different way than you do), his speech in public, his decisions in private, etc. Also listen to hear how many times you have a better idea about a matter.
- Never argue with him in front of your children. By the way, your children, especially teens, are very intuitive. You might not disagree with your husband out loud, but you can disagree with body language or a look from your eyes.
- Don't use tears to try to get your own way. Do you really want your husband to give in to you when he feels strongly about an issue? It would be better if you prayed about the matter.

There is a very helpful tool on the “Revive Our Hearts” website for reminding ourselves to love, submit, and respect our husbands as we should. It is called the **“30-Day Husband Encouragement Challenge.”** You'll find it to be a huge blessing. It's simple, straight forward, and to the point.

(There are challenges like, “Don't say anything negative about your husband to him or about him to anyone else.” or “Cultivate patience toward your husband” (I Cor. 13:4). “Voice your gratitude.”)

Remember that you are the best person to meet your husband's needs. Build him up, pray for him, give of yourself to him, make him glad that he married you, & appreciate him for who he is. He's God's choice for you! By God's grace, as my father used to say, **“Don't Quit!”**

### *Book recommendations:*

- *A Woman After God's Own Heart*, Elizabeth George
- *Adorned*, Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth
- *The Role of a Lifetime: The Script God Wrote for Women*, Claudia Barba

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