

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

⁴Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant,

⁵does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered,

⁶does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

⁷bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸Love never fails.

"The man who weds a loving wife,
Whate'er betideth him in life.
Shall bear up under all:
But he that finds an evil mate,
No good can come within his gate,
His cup is fill'd with fall."

~ C. H. Spurgeon

Scriptural Instruction

- The Command love their husbands (Titus 2:4) philandros: willing, affectionate, friendship love, "to like"
 - Love is a verb (an action).
 - Loving my husband is measured by my actions.

Biblically loving my husband . . .

- Is not a sentiment but a willful _____
- Is not a feeling but a willful devotion.
- Is not an emotion but a willful ______.

2. The Motivation

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- I should not base my love for my husband on his love for me (conditional) or on his worthiness
- I should not base my love on my
 —my emotions change daily, even hourly!

"There are no conditions or exceptions. It is not simply that love of husbands is a virtue but that not loving them is a sin."

~ John McArthur

b) Positively

that the word of God will not be dishonored

"All of this [Titus 2:3-5] is to be done so that there is not a negative ramification for the Word of God. We are called to verify God's saying."

~ Pastor Minnick

- Biblically loving my husband shows my obedience and honor to God's Word (Psalm 119:128).
- Biblically loving my husband gives an example to my _____ of God's plan for marriage.

Practical Application

- 1. _____ for Your Husband
 - a) Pray Scripture for your husband (examples-Psalm 19:14, James 1:5)
 - b) Pray for your husband in his role as . . .
 - Husband (Ephesians 5:25)
 - Father (Ephesians 6:4)
 - Employer / employee (Colossians 3:22-24)
 - c) Pray for his ministries
 - d) Pray for his spiritual welfare (Ephesians 6:12)

"The greatest gift you can give your husband is the gift of lifting his name and needs before the throne of God. Prayer for your husband releases the energies of God, for prayer is asking God to do what you cannot do."

~ Elizabeth George

2. _____ our Husband

Be his strongest supporter, not his loudest criticizer.

Don't nag or be argumentative (Proverbs 19:13, 20:9).

- Always speak respectively of him and to him in front of your children.
- Never criticize him / speak negatively of him with others—including your mother (James 4:11).
- Show him gratitude and encourage your children to do the same.
- Let him know how much he is missed when he is away.
- Hold his opinions in high regard.

3. _____ Your Husband

She does him good and not evil all the day s of her life. ~ Proverbs 31:10

- Fit him (Genesis 2:18).
- Follow his guidance in rearing and disciplining your children.
- Keep his home a haven.
- Follow his guidance about finances—don't be a financial liability to him (Be content with what your husband provides).
- Care for his material needs with joy (Proverbs 31:27).
- Care for his physical needs with delight.
 Communicate kindly, but don't make excuses.
- Keep a gentle and quiet spirit (I Peter 3:4).
 Apologize quickly when necessary (James 5:16).
 Readily forgive when asked. (I Corinthians 4:5b)
- Follow his guidance about your dress and the dress of your daughters.
 Remember he sees through a man's eyes.
- Stay attractive in his eyes, keep physically fit and get enough rest (Psalm 127:2).

- Show him affection.
- Be interested in the things he is interested in.
- Seek his guidance—check with him before committing to things.

"Your love to me is not only a product of nature, but it has been so sanctified by grace that is has become a spiritual blessing to me."

~ C. H. Spurgeon A birthday letter to his wife, January, 1891