

THE ROLE OF WOMAN AS THE WIFE **(1 Peter 3:1-6)**

I. She must be mature.

- A. Genesis 2:24 applies to the woman as well as the man.
 - 1. She is to leave father and mother.
 - 2. She is to cleave to her husband.
- B. Think of the first year you were married.
 - 1. There were a lot of adjustments that had to be made in order for happiness to be maintained.
 - 2. New responsibilities of keeping a budget, grocery shopping, penny-pinching and other things were now being done.
- C. Without maturity, these things cannot be done properly.
- D. A wife can not go running home to mom and dad when times got rough, any more than the husband can.

II. She must be submissive.

- A. One of the roles of the husband is to lead (Ephesians 5:23).
 - 1. He is to take in account his wife's best interest and make decisions based on the knowledge of his wife and the best spiritual interests of the family.
 - 2. This is not an easy role but it is a God given role.
- B. Since there can only be one head, God has determined that the wife is to be submissive in the home.
- C. Notice 1 Peter 3:5-6.
 - 1. Submission to the leadership of the husband is something that all of God's women have done.
 - 2. According to Peter and inspiration, if a wife refuses to be submissive, she cannot be an adopted daughter of Sarah.
- D. Notice Ephesians 5:22-24.
- E. Both of these passages show the role of the wife is to be submissive to her husband.
 - 1. When this is rejected, it is not just the husband being rejected.
 - 2. It also means God is rejected.
- F. Jesus never tried to remove Himself from being submissive to the Father.
 - 1. Before His death He prayed, "Not my will but thine."
 - 2. If Jesus had rebelled, He would have sinned.
- G. This does not mean the wife is to be run over or ignored.
 - 1. A husband is not fulfilling his role of loving his wife if he treats her in this manner.
 - 2. That which he has learned about her is to go into every decision that is made.
- H. When the husband does make a decision based on what is best spiritually for the family, the wife is to be submissive and supportive.

III. She must love her husband.

- A. Titus 2:4-5.
- B. A husband needs his wife to love him.

1. This instance does not mean a sexual love.
 2. This is the ability to see the man inside and overlook the faults.
 3. This is the ability to encourage him and stand beside him in his efforts.
- C. We mentioned the book, His Needs, Her Needs, by Harley.
- D. The fifth most needed thing of a husband is admiration - the desire for his wife to be proud of him and to express that pride.
- E. If a wife does not love her husband, she cannot meet this need.
- F. Inside every man is that little boy who needs to be patted on the head and told what a good job he has done.
1. Nagging will not accomplish anything but misery.
 2. Proverbs 25:24.
 3. Love brings loyalty, kindness and gentleness.
- G. Love picks the husband up when he fails and cheers him when he succeeds.
- H. When others lose faith in him, the wife will stand beside him knowing he can accomplish the task.

IV. She is to keep the home.

- A. Titus 2:5 says that wives are to be keepers at home.
1. This phrase means, "one who looks after domestic affairs with prudence and care."
 2. The wife runs the household affairs.
- B. This does not mean the wife is to do all the work, but to see that it is done.
1. She doesn't have to cook every meal, wash every load of clothes and things such as this.
 2. She is to make sure that it is done.
 3. If my wife were to rely on me, we would be doing the smell test on our clothes a lot of times.
- C. She is to make the home a place to which the husband desires to come after work.
1. The fourth greatest need of a husband is domestic support.
 2. After coming home from work, a husband generally doesn't want to have to go right back to work at the house.
 3. Again, this doesn't mean he won't help, but for him to do his role of provide and then do the role of keeper at home will not work.
- D. This does not mean a wife cannot work outside the home.
1. Many great wives work outside the home.
 2. However, they understand their role as keeper at home and make sure those duties are met.

V. She is to satisfy her husband.

- A. Notice 1 Corinthians 7:1-5.
1. The greatest need of husbands is sexual fulfillment according to the studies of Willard Harley.
 2. I hope none of you wives are stunned by this.
- B. There is never a situation when sex outside of marriage is not without sin.
- C. The marriage bed is undefiled and the place for the fulfillment of the God-

- given sexual desires all have.
- D. By inspiration, Paul tells wives that they are to render due benevolence to their husbands.
 - 1. When this is not done, husbands will very possibly seek sexual satisfaction with someone else.
 - 2. If that were to happen sin is present.
 - E. When wives fulfill this part of their role in the home, you find husbands who are extremely happy and satisfied with their marriage.
 - F. Practicing sexual blackmail will damage the home.
 - 1. Remember 1 Corinthians 7:5?
 - 2. Abstinence in marriage is to only be for a time with mutual consent.
 - G. Notice this sentence from Robert Taylor: "Every wife needs to remember that the salvation of her husband's soul may be at stake here."