



Godly Wife

Ephesians 5:21-33

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Key Thoughts: Only if we observe the Bible's instructions to wives through the lens of its instructions to husbands do we see blessings.

Key Question: What are the Bible's instructions for a godly wife?

Read Ephesians 5:21-33

The Duty of a Godly Wife: (vv. 22, 24, 31)

The apostle Paul's specific instruction to Christian wives is to submit to their husbands. Submission means literally "to arrange under". Biblical submission is taking all one has to offer and arranging it under the purposes of God's fulfillment in the life of another.

1) What is the duty of a Godly wife?

- How does our culture struggle with biblical submission?
- Describe more fully biblical submission as a pouring out one's self into the completion of another.
- Read Proverbs 31. Whom do you know that has expressed well the gifts, talents, and resources God gave her to support her husband and family. How did it impact their loved ones. How did it impact you?

The Dignity of a Godly Wife: (vv. 22,24)

The world often portrays the Church as degrading women when in fact Christianity does quite the opposite. The way Paul had instructed husbands to treat their wives would have been radically unreasonable in the Greco-Roman culture of his time, giving women dignity and equal status with men before the Lord.

2) How did Christianity flip the switch on the marginalization of women in Paul's day? What made it so revolutionary?

- What does "wives submit to your husbands, as to the Lord" mean? What does it not mean?

The Desire of a Godly Wife (vv. 21, 33)

Deep down a wife/mother has a desire that pushes her past the discomfort, discouragement, and hard days to still be there for her family, to support them, to build them up in a way God's purposes and grace are ultimately fulfilled in their lives. That is the kind of desire Paul is speaking to in this passage.

3) Why ultimately does a wife desire to respect her husband? How does the Lord utilize that respect?

- Often times what are the ways husbands and wives try to control rather than complete each other?
- How can a wife practically respect her husband even during a pandemic? How might God use that in both the husband's life, the wife's life, and the lives of others connected to them?

Q's for Kids: (Proverbs 31 together)

- 1) What gifts, abilities, or smarts does your mom (or loved mother-figure in your life) have that you admire her for using so well to help you, your family, and others to be all God wants you all to be?**
- 2) When a wife/mom does that what is she showing us? Whose love does that remind you of? (God's)**