

'Faith: You and Your Husband

1. What do you feel is involved in the term "helpmeet" as used in Genesis 2:18?
2. What are our responsibilities to our husbands, according to the Scriptures?
(Back all statements by specific verses)
3. What are our husbands' responsibilities to us, according to the Scriptures?
(Back all statements by specific verses)
4. Why do some Christian marriages fail?
5. List pressures put on marriages today and discuss how Christian husbands and wives cope with these pressures.
6. What should Christian couples' opinions be regarding divorce?
7. List the ten most important elements in marriage, in your opinion.

1. "Help meet" involves companionship (the Lord said "It is not good that the man should be alone."); a suitable helper; a corresponding aide. See I Corinthians 11:9. (supportive)

2. Our responsibilities to our husbands:

A. "Reverence" our husbands.
(Ephesians 5:3,3)

B. "Love" our husbands.
(Titus 2:4)

C. "Submit" ourselves unto our husbands.
(Ephesians 5:22) (5:24) (I Peter 3:1,5)

D. "Obedient" to our husbands"
(Titus 2:5)

E. "Render" ourselves unto our husbands.
(I Corinthians 7:3-4)

3. Our husbands' responsibilities to us:

A. "Love" us.

(Ephesians 5:25) (5:28) (5:33)

B. "Head" us.

(Ephesians 5:23)

C. "Honor" us.

(I Peter 3:7)

(Proverbs 31:29)

Trust us

Proverbs 31:11

D. "Render" unto us.

(I Corinthians 7:3-4) ^{LOVE:} Cherish 3:19
Colossians

4. Some Christian marriages fail due to lack of reverence and honor, lack of proper leadership role, lack of submission, lack of faithfulness in the love, couple does not allow Christ to be head of home.

5. Pressures on marriage today:

(a) Media emphasis on unfaithfulness, glamorized romance, and sex.

- (b) Prevalence of alcohol and drugs as acceptable entertainment.
- (c) Lack of communication between husband and wife
- (d) Ease in obtaining divorce for any reason.
- (e) Lack of shared interests between husband and wife.
- (f) Lack of spiritual stability and church involvement.
- (g) One saved and one not saved, or the two of different church beliefs.
- (h) Both working in career positions and devoting energy to career.
- (i) Financial difficulties due to the economy.

How Christian couples cope with these pressures:

- (a) Screen reading material and movies or television programs to limit or eliminate materials and programming that highly promote adultery, promiscuity, etc.
(Avoid temptations.)

- (b) Abstain from drugs and alcohol.
Avoid close relationships with those who are involved with drugs and alcohol.
- (c) Strive for open, honest, caring communication or seek a qualified counselor if serious problems exist.
- (d) View marriage as a lifetime commitment and work to overcome problem areas in the relationship.
- (e) Compromise and find some areas of interest you can pursue together, yet keep some of your individual interests as well.
- (f) Strive for a well developed relationship with the Lord and participate faithfully in church services.
- (h) The godly woman should evaluate her motives in working and reserve

her greater portion of energy for her responsibilities in the home.

- (i) Eliminate unnecessary expenses and trust the Lord to provide for needs.

6. Christian couples should strive earnestly to remain together, even if adultery occurs. In Matthew 19:3-9 the idea is presented that divorce occurred because of the hardness of men's hearts and originally divorce was not planned. We should avoid divorce if at all possible.

7. Ten most important elements in marriage:

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|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. saved & serving | 6. patience |
| 2. respect | 7. sense of humor |
| 3. love | 8. ability to express feelings |
| 4. understanding | 9. faithfulness |
| 5. empathy | 10. trust |

The Wife's Role

I. Intimate Relationship Between Husband and Wife

- A. "Flesh of my flesh"
 - 1. Genesis 2:22-24
- B. "One flesh"
 - 1. Mark 10:6-9

II. Husband as Head of Home - Wife as Help Meet

- A. Genesis 2:20 - "an help meet"
- B. I Corinthians 11:8-9 - "of the man"
- C. Genesis 3:16 - "to thy husband"
- D. Ephesians 5:22-24 - "as unto the head"

III. Responsibilities of wife

- A. Titus 2:4-5
 - 1. Sober
 - 2. love husband
 - 3. love children
 - 4. discreet
 - 5. chaste
 - 6. keeper at home
 - 7. good
 - 8. obedient to husband