

# How You Lead

*“Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord.*

*For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior”*  
- Ephesians 5:22-23

## Read Ephesians 5:21-33

**Men, have your ears ever perked up when you heard these verses:**

“Wives, submit to your husbands...” and “...The husband is the head of the wife”.

These verses might have boosted our egos, however there is a duty that accompanies these instructions. As followers of Christ our attitude in regard to how we handle every aspect of our lives should be that of John 3:30: “*He must become greater; I must become less*”. Men, this is especially true in our role as husband.

## Read Matthew 20:28

This verse not only defines why Jesus came, but also clearly demonstrates the example we are to follow. The leadership that Christ role-models is the leadership a husband is to demonstrate in the home.

**God requires husbands to be \_\_\_\_\_ leaders.** (*servant*)

You can't look down on someone when you're washing their feet. Look up: John 13:1-5.

Paul told wives to submit to their husbands. The fact that a teaching is not popular is not enough to discard it. God has set an order. According to the bible the man is the spiritual head of the family and his wife should acknowledge his leadership. But real spiritual leadership involves service. Just as Christ served the disciples even to the point of washing their feet, so the husband is to serve his wife.

Paul also strongly emphasized the equality of believers in Christ. He counseled all believers to submit to one another by choice – wives to husbands, and husbands to wives. This kind of mutual submission preserves harmony while it increases love and respect within a marriage. A Christ honoring husband will not take advantage of his leadership role. Look up: Galatians 3:26-28, Ephesians 5:21

The husband is to be the \_\_\_\_\_ of the home, not a \_\_\_\_\_. Look up: Colossians 3:19  
(*spiritual leader*) (bully)

Headship doesn't mean more \_\_\_\_\_, but \_\_\_\_\_. Remember, your wife is an equal heir.  
Look up: 1 Peter 3:7 (privilege) (responsibility)

Men – God holds you responsible (Ephesians 5:25-27). This ought to be a sobering reality. Are you, as the “Spiritual Leader” in the home, bathing your wife in the Word of God? Do you have devotions together? Do you pray together?

*“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.”* – Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Wives are to respect their husbands, but in order to do that comfortably they need confidence in your spirituality. Your assignment from God is to make your wife a more radiant Christian.

**Jesus is the example of \_\_\_\_\_ leadership.** (Ephesians 5:25)  
(*sacrificial*)

**Sacrificial love is:** (1) Passionate; the same passion that sent Jesus to the cross (Eph 5:25). (2) Purifying (Eph 5:26-27). (3) Protecting (Eph 5:28). (4) Providing, this means meeting her needs emotionally as well (Eph 5:29).

Will Jesus ever leave you? The answer is of course “no” (Matthew 28:20). A wife needs to feel the same way about her husband. A wife needs absolute confidence in her husband's love; that you are steadfast in your loyalty (Eph 5:31).

A wife needs to know her husband will never \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ her. (Deuteronomy 31:6)  
(leave) (forsake)

Close by reading Proverbs 18:22