



PAUL NEFF

Go Above and Beyond

Welcome to this companion devotion for our blog post on husbands. These Bible passages and thought-provoking questions are designed to help you engage with the Scriptures as well as observe understand and apply God's Word to your life I pray this devotion will inspire and motivate you to consider the benefits of applying the truth of each passage and growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior.

Christ came to serve. Indeed, He was the head of the church, but first and foremost Christ was a servant. He sacrificed and served others. As husbands, we are called to be the head of our homes; but our approach should follow Christ - be humble and serve.

Society today puts a different perspective on how men are to behave, and some of these values and perspectives subtly find their way into our marriages.

LEAN IN

- 1 Who has been a role model in your life of how a Godly husband ought to be?

LOOK DOWN

- 1 As you read through the following Scriptures what key things stand out to you about loving your wife?

Ephesians 5:21-33 (NLT)

“And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything.”

For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God’s word. He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself. No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church. And we are members of his body.

As the Scriptures say, “A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.” This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. So again, I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.”

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NLT)

“Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.”

John 13:34-35 (NLT)

“So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”

1 John 4:7-12 (NLT)

“Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.”

Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us.

LOOK OUT

What are the differences between the world's perspective on our role as husbands and God's perspective?

LOOK IN

Where in your marriage do you exhibit these qualities and where do you need to improve?

What do you think it is like for your wife to be married to you?

LIVE IT OUT

What is one way you can go above and beyond to show your wife true love this week?