

LIVING IN OUR ROLES

LESSON 9

M.I.P.

Session 9 – Most Important Point

***PRESENT YOUR 'SELF' TO BE CONSUMED BY GOD AND
BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND***

We've been talking a lot about '**our roles**' in marriage, and now we're going to try to turn all of that into practical application, with the question . . .

*H*OW DO WE LIVE IN OUR ROLES?

How do we take the Word of God and actually change our marriages?
How do we begin to live (moment-by-moment) in our roles?

Before we answer that question, let's see some examples of what living In our roles looks like:



God's Design for the Role of the Husband:

- Sacrificially Lead – Eph 5:23
- Sacrificially Love – Eph 5:25-29

In John 13, Jesus was about to be betrayed, arrested, beaten, and crucified, and yet, He set aside His own burdens to be able to say to His disciples, “Now, do as I do.”

John 13:1-5

¹ Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. [Sacrificially Loving]

² And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him,

³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God,

⁴ rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself.

⁵ After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.”

Jesus was washing the dirt and grime of the day off of His bride, the church.

Servant-Leadership is setting aside your own burdens, and doing something sacrificial for your wife, to wash away the effects of the day.

Although Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church, He never asked the church to do one thing for His personal benefit. His actions were ALWAYS for the benefit of the church, NEVER for His own benefit.

Skip down to John 13:12-15 . . .

John 13:12-15

¹² *So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you?”*

¹³ *You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am.*

¹⁴ *If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.*

¹⁵ *For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.”*

Jesus Christ emptied Himself, and in total humility; He put His love into action, to serve, to heal, and to give life to His bride. Then He says to us (Jn 13:15), ***“For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.”***



God’s Design for the Role of the Wife:

- Sacrificially Help – Gen 2:18
- Sacrificially Support – Eph 5:22-24



Wives, your husband needs your help and support. And the first critical way to show that, is at home.

I understand, in our culture, this is more complicated when both husband and wife work outside the home, but look with me . . .

As Paul instructs Titus regarding the older women in Titus 2:4-5:

Titus 2:4-5

⁴ *[see] that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,*
⁵ *to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed."*

The word homemakers means literally **to keep watch over the affairs of the house**.

Then, in 1Tim 5:14 regarding younger widows, we read:

1Tim 5:14

"Therefore I desire that the younger widows marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully."

The word manage means literally **to guide the house**.

The first critical way for a wife to *live in her role*, is keep watch over, and to guide the affairs of the house.

Again, I understand this requires some further discussion when both husband and wife work full-time outside the house.

But one of the best ways a wife can live in her role is to be an excellent manager and guide of the household affairs.



PERFECT WRAP-UP VERSE

In Ephesians 5:33 we see what both the wife and the husband need most.

Eph 5:33

“Nevertheless let each one of you [men] in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.”



WHAT DOES THE WIFE NEED?

She needs to be loved as her husband's own body.



WHAT DOES THE HUSBAND NEED?

He needs to be respected by his Wife.

These are the supernatural ingredients for both husbands and wives to give their spouses what they need most.

There is so much more to say about living in our roles that it fills many, many good Christian books.

But often what I've found, is it's NOT that we don't know WHAT our roles are, it's that we don't know HOW to live in them.

2Pet 1:2-3

*² Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,
³ as **His divine power has given to us all things** that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,”*

God’s divine power has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness, thru the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue.



2Pet 1:4

*“by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, **that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”*

God has done this so that “***we may be partakers of the divine nature.***”

And **THAT** is exactly what we need to live in a marriage as God designed it to be!



Now, the **our-part part** comes in the next verses . . .

2Pet 1:5-8

⁵ *But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge,*

⁶ *to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness,*

⁷ *to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.*

⁸ *For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

You **can be** a partaker of the divine nature in your marriage, but first you must be transformed in your spiritual growth. That is the ‘our-part’ part;

A 3-STEP PROCESS FOR TRANSFORMATION . . .



STEP #1 - - REALIZE THERE’S NOT ENOUGH ‘TRY’ IN YOU

You must depend on the divine power of the Holy Spirit.

2Pet 1:3

“as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness,”

This power doesn’t come from within you. This is the transformation power that is from God alone. It is Divine Power. It comes in the person of the Holy Spirit!

John 14:16, Jesus says . . .

¹⁶ *And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—*

In Acts 1:8, Jesus says . . .

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; . . .”

You must constantly live in the divine power of the Holy Spirit.

Study Galatians 5:16-25 and see the resources on page 6 of lesson 4.



STEP #2 - - PRESENT YOUR ‘SELF’ TO BE CONSUMED BY GOD

Christ must live in you, to love and sacrifice for your spouse.

Rom 12:1

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.”

Body here means literally the totality of your ‘self.’

Sacrifice is something consumed by God.

You must present the totality of your ‘self’ to be consumed by God.

You must be able to say with Gal 2:20

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

**YOU MUST PRESENT THE TOTALITY OF
YOUR ‘SELF’ TO BE CONSUMED BY GOD**

STEP #3 - - BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND

By focusing your spiritual growth on your marriage.

Rom 12:2

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind . . .”

The word for renewing is literally a renovation, a complete change.

Get a renovation of your mind.

God’s divine power really can transform you by the renewing of your mind.

HOW DOES THIS TRANSFORMATION TAKE PLACE?

- 1 **Daily** intake of: Prayer – The Word - & Fellowship
- 2 **Acknowledging** areas that have not been fully surrendered to God
- 3 **Focusing** your spiritual growth on those specific areas

This almost always involves repentance from sin.

And it always involves **daily** walking in the Spirit (see Eph Ch 5).

For a great Resource in this area, we recommend “*Be Ye Transformed*”
from Chuck and Nancy Misler at www.khouse.org.

Response Time . . .

Most seminars end up being “*just so much information*” because there is never a **daily change** in how we live. If we don’t actively apply these truths, our marriages will go back to being the same as they were before the seminar.

- Do you understand that information gathering alone will NOT change your marriage? _____
- Are you willing to actively apply the truths God is revealing to you in this study? _____
- Will you commit to DAILY prayer and devotion reading with your spouse for the Holy Spirit to transform your marriage? _____
- Will you acknowledge the specific needs in your marriage and commit to a long-term plan for divine transformation in those specific areas? _____
- What are some ways you can begin to APPLY these truths on a regular basis after this study?

Let’s Pray: “*Dear Heavenly Father, please don’t allow us to be hearers of the word only. Please convict us and give us the power to be doers of Your Word. Please hold us accountable by Your Holy Spirit to pray and read Your Word together, and please reveal to us ways we can actively apply Your principals in our marriage. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.*”