

Series: Relationship Reset
Title: Impacting Your Marriage as a Husband
Scripture: 1 Peter 3:7
Speaker: Pastor Ian Bonthron



How can a _____ impact his marriage for good?

1 Peter 3:7

7 Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you[a] of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

1. _____, in your authority in marriage, you have an authority you answer to, Jesus

God doesn't call husbands to "be the head." He simply says the husband is head (Ephesians 5:23). The question is not whether the man will be head, but what kind of head will he be? An absent one? A lazy one? An evil, abusive one? Or will he be a true husband, the kind Jesus is to his church? The husband's calling is to be a head like Christ — which is the sort of headship provided by one who is also Savior. "The husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior" (Ephesians 5:23). Jesus made it plain what headship means in Christian terms: not lording it over, but serving "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mark 10:42–45) — [David Matthis](#)

1 Peter 3:7

7 Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you[a] of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

2. Husbands, _____ and _____ your wife

A. Consider her _____ and _____ what you can

B. Consider what she _____ and _____ it when you can

Ephesians 5:25

25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and **gave himself up for her**,

If the last message on a wife's submission was hard for your wife, maybe it's because you don't love her well.

C. Consider what she _____ and _____ where you are able

The only way you will have the credibility to speak into these circumstances is if you are growing in your relationship with God

Ephesians 5:25-26

25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

1 Peter 3:7

7 Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, **showing honor** to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you[a] of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

D. Always treat her with _____

You continually show respect to her because it's who you are, not because she has done something to deserve the respect

Publicly

Privately

Husbands should be the biggest servants in their home, don't let your wife outserve you

1 Peter 3:7

7 Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you[a] of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

She may be your wife, but she is God's daughter. Don't you ever treat her with anything but understanding and respect.

1 Peter 3:7

7 Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you[a] of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

At all times _____ and _____ your wife.

11/02/25

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Getting to know you Questions:

1. What's one "quirky habit" you've had to learn to live with in a roommate, friend, or spouse?
2. What's the strangest or funniest argument you've ever heard a couple have?

Into the Bible Questions:

Read 1 Peter 3:7

1. What was something from the passage or sermon that surprised you, helped you, confused you, or bothered you?
2. What does this passage tell us about God? People? Living to please God?*
3. How does 1 Peter 3:7 connect with the pattern of submission and leadership Peter lays out in the wider passage?
4. In what ways do our cultural views of marriage clash with God's design in 1 Peter 3:7?
5. How does Jesus redefine leadership in Mark 10:42–45, and what does that mean for Christian husbands?
6. What does it practically look like for a husband to "live with his wife in an understanding way?"
7. What are some examples of dishonoring speech or actions that couples may brush off as "jokes," but can actually be harmful?
8. Peter warns that if husbands don't treat their wives with understanding and honor, their prayers may be hindered. Why do you think God takes this so seriously?
9. How does understanding that your spouse is God's son or daughter or "heirs with you of the grace of life" change the way you treat them?
10. Why is it so easy for couples to default to competition instead of preferring one another?
11. How might unmarried men and women apply the truths in this verse as they think about dating and preparing for marriage?

For Extra Study, Read Ephesians 5:25-33

1. Paul says husbands should love their wives “as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.” What are some practical examples of how a husband can “give himself up” in everyday life?
2. In verse 28, Paul says husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. How does that challenge selfish tendencies in marriage?
3. How does mutual respect and love (v. 33) serve as a summary of God’s design for marriage roles?
4. What needs to change in your life so that you can live this out?
5. Jot down any insights, questions, or key observations.

Application Questions:

1. Husbands: How are you doing at submitting first to Jesus in your leadership at home? What would change if you did this?
2. Wives: What would it look like to encourage your husband as he seeks to lead like Christ?
3. Husbands: In what specific ways can you grow in understanding your wife’s (or future wife’s) perspective, instead of just trying to “fix” it?
4. What’s one way you can practically honor your spouse in public and private this week?
5. Husbands: What’s one “want” of your wife you can meet this week to show her love and honor?
6. Husbands: What is one way you can invest in your wife’s walk with God? Wives: If you could tell your husband one thing that would help you get closer to Jesus, what would that be?
7. What habits of speech or joking do you need to stop because they don’t show respect?
8. How could you rearrange your schedule, budget, or habits to show your spouse they are your priority?
9. If you’re single, how could you practice living with “understanding and respect” toward women or men in your community now?
10. What specific prayer could you pray this week for your marriage (or future marriage) based on 1 Peter 3:7?

How can we support and pray for each other this week?