

A Spirit-Filled Wife

Colossians 3:16-18

*"The tendency today is to stress the equality of men and women by minimizing the unique significance of our maleness or femaleness. But this depreciation of male and female personhood is a great loss. It is taking a tremendous toll on generations of young men and woman who do not know what it means to be a man or a woman. Confusion over the meaning of sexual personhood today is epidemic. The consequence of this confusion is not free and happy harmony among gender-free persons relating on the basis of abstract competencies. The consequence rather is more divorce, more homosexuality, more sexual abuse, more promiscuity, more social awkwardness, and more emotional distress and suicide that come with the loss of God-given identity." (Piper, **Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood**)*

I. Her main ATTENTION is her own heart

Colossians 3:12-14 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, 13 bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against one another, forgiving each other, as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

II. Her main AMBITION is the glory of God

III. Her main ATTITUDE is similar to that of Christ

AT THE HEART OF MATURE FEMININITY IS A FREEING DISPOSITION TO AFFIRM, RECEIVE, AND NURTURE STRENGTH AND LEADERSHIP FROM WORTHY MEN IN WAYS APPROPRIATE TO A WOMAN'S DIFFERING RELATIONSHIPS.

IV. Her ACTIONS toward the husband is her main ministry

Ways of expressing your loving submission to your husband:

- maintaining a good personal spiritual life;
- making home a place of encouragement, understanding and warmth;
- praying for him and with him about something specific;
- showing interest in his spiritual growth, his love for the Lord;
- being positive and noticing God's grace in his life;
- admiring his gifts, achievements, abilities, leadership skills;
- discussing things lovingly, openly, and honestly;
- enthusiastically cooperating and sharing with him in devotions and prayer;
- asking his advice when you have problems or decision to make;
- letting him to have the last word in general decision making;
- encouraging him with the Gospel when he is under stress or in fear;
- asking him why he likes to be your husband and in what areas to improve;
- supporting him and cooperating positively when he has made a decision;
- thanking him in creative ways for his attempts to please you;
- refusing to compare him with your dad, brothers, other men;
- being lovingly honest with him and share your concerns, fears, joys;
- willing to see things from his point of view;
- offering constructive suggestions and respectfully giving your input;
- managing to stay within the family budget;
- avoid controlling, competing, manipulating or 'mothering' him;
- refusing to blame-shift, attack, nag, complain, withdraw, exaggerate;
- asking for forgiveness and actually changing where you should;
- giving him your undivided attention when he wants to talk;
- cooperating with him in raising your children;
- building loyalty and respect toward him in the children;
- never critiquing or criticizing him in front of children;
- planning vacations and trips together;
- joining him in the ministry at church;
- doing various things at home together;
- fulfilling your responsibilities at home;
- keeping the house clean and neat;
- cooking creatively and faithfully;
- being appreciative and cooperative, happy and cheerful;
- greeting him at the door when he comes home with a smile, a hug, a kiss;
- giving him a lingering and suggesting kiss;
- wearing his favorite dress or perfume;
- expressing your love in words personally (not on social media);
- asking him sincerely where he wants you to change;
- letting him know that you appreciate him and what exactly;

- sharing his hobbies and recreational preferences;
- keeping yourself attractive to him and neat;
- taking care of his clothes and caring for his physical appearances;
- refuse to disagree with him or confront him in the presence of others;
- cooperate with him in establishing family goals, procedures;
- teasing with him and flirting;
- surprising him with romantic ideas and gifts;
- initiating physical intimacy and showing great interest in your lovemaking