

Fashioned

IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

WEEK SIXTEEN

LOVE YOUR HUSBAND

DAY 1

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. What two things does Titus 2:4 say older (spiritually mature) women should encourage younger women to do?
3. Often our culture defines love as a feeling. It is something we can "fall into" or "fall out of." However, Biblical love is entirely different; it is not a feeling, but an action. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 is arguably the most famous passage on love in the Bible. How do these verses say love acts?
4. What do the verses above say love does not do?
5. Acting in love requires a determined commitment. It is not based on the worthiness of the one receiving love, but is rooted in the commandment of God. Where does 1 John 4:7-8 & 19 say the motivation to love this way originates? Evaluate your marriage. Using the list above, how well do you love your husband? In which areas do you most need to grow? (If unmarried, use this week to evaluate how you demonstrate love to those closest to you).
6. Write out this week's memory verse on a notecard or a piece of paper and post it somewhere you will see it often (e.g bathroom mirror, car, desk, kitchen sink, etc.).

Scripture Memory:

This is my commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.

~John 15:12-13

I'm praying about:

DAY 2

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. What does Ephesians 5:33 say we must do as godly wives?
3. We can easily fall into ungodly patterns of disrespect. Read Proverbs 19:13, 21:9, 25:24 and 27:15-16. Do these verses in any way describe you? What impact does contention have on those in your household?
4. How do nagging, complaining, comparing and lack of submission to your husband's leadership demonstrate disrespect? How often do you fall into these patterns? Instead, what does James 1:19-20 challenge us to do?
5. Read Proverbs 12:4. Demonstrating respect to your husband is incredibly important and deeply impacts your marriage for better or for worse. This includes showing respect when he is present and also when he is not. When you are disrespectful the Bible says you are like rotteness in his bones. Does your husband feel respected by you? (Consider asking him what things you do that demonstrate either respect or disrespect). Would those close to you describe you as a respectful wife?
6. Write out this week's memory verse below:

DAY 3

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. One of the gifts God has given us to enjoy and to express love for one another in marriage is physical intimacy. Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-5. What is the reason these verses give for not depriving one another of this expression of love? Is there a healthy level of physical intimacy in your marriage?
3. What does Hebrew 13:4 command about the marriage bed (physical intimacy)? Is there anything that has defiled your marriage bed? If so, what steps can you take to remove it?
4. The Bible labels physical intimacy enjoyed outside of marriage immorality. What do 1 Corinthians 6:13 & 18-20, Ephesians 5:3, Colossians 3:5 and 1 Thessalonians 4:3 say about immorality? God is not harsh, but is a loving, protective Father. Why do you think we are commanded to live this way? What hazards does immorality pose to our lives and how might God be protecting us by giving us these parameters for intimacy?
5. Write out this week's memory verse below:

DAY 4

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. Read Genesis 2:18-25. What was the reason God created Eve in verse 20? In what ways do you help your husband? (If unmarried, how could you be of help to your future husband or those with whom you live?)
3. What does Proverbs 31:10-12 say the excellent wife does? Is this an accurate description of your marriage? Does your husband's heart trust fully in you? If you have broken his trust or wounded him in some way how can you repair the damage done?
4. What does 1 Corinthians 16:14 command? What does Ephesians 4:3 instruct us to be careful to preserve? Why must we be reminded to do these things? How can you grow in these areas in your marriage?
5. Write out this week's memory verse below:

DAY 5

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. It is easy to love people who are pleasant; it is much harder to be loving toward those who are difficult. How does the Bible describe Abigail's husband, Nabal, in 1 Samuel 25:1-3 & 5-11 & 17 & 25?
3. How are we called to love according to John 15:12-13?
4. We are called to love our husbands (and others) the same way that Jesus loved us. He loved self-sacrificially, to the extent that He laid down His life for those He loved. He didn't wait for us to be good or kind, but He died for us when we were ungodly, ungrateful sinners (Romans 5:6-7). What insight does this give you into loving a difficult husband? Why does a difficult marriage not excuse you from walking in love?
5. How does 1 Peter 3:1-6 instruct you to act and what encouragement does it offer in verse 1? What do 1 Peter 4:8 and Proverbs 10:12 say that love does?
6. Your marriage is not about you. If you know Christ, your marriage tells a greater story about the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Ephesians 5:22-33) and His love, grace, forgiveness and covenant-keeping toward us. If someone observed your marriage would they see an accurate picture of the Gospel? Why or why not?
7. Write out this week's memory verse below: