

## God's Plan for the Family: Husbands

Colossians 3:19 (NKJV) Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.

Ephesians 5:25-33 (ESV)

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, 27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

28 In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, 30 because we are members of his body. 31 "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. 33 However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

1 Peter 3:7 (ESV)

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 of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

- Love your wives intentionally (Col 3:19)  
"Husbands, love your wives. . ."
- Love your wives sacrificially (Eph 5:25)  
"love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. . ."
- Love your wives purposefully (Eph 5:26)  
"that he might sanctify her. . . so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish."
- Love your wives instinctively (Eph 5:28-32)  
"In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh"

- Love your wives graciously (Col 3:19, 1 Pet 3:7)

“. . . and do not be bitter toward them.”

1 Peter 3:7 (ESV)

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 of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

**“We love because He first loved us.”**