

**“HUSBANDS LOVE YOUR WIVES”**

(Kaikohe CF Men’s Meeting - 2/4/96 – ekb, revised 30/4/07)

1. *Eph 5:25, Col 3:19*. **The word in the Greek for “love” is agape and means to do good things to another**, to help, assist, strengthen, show mercy and bless. *1Cor 13:5-8*.
2. **How do we react** when our wives do not do something we want, or when they do something we don’t like?
3. Do we rise up with angry bitter words and abuse them? Hopefully not. If we do, we have to start there, and by the help God gives, repent and refuse to use any verbal or physical abuse. **Jesus’ way is to forgive and bless**, *Lk 6:27-38, Mk 11:25,26*. We have to deny how we feel and obey Jesus, *Lk 8:21*.
4. However even if we do not outwardly become angry with our wives, **we can still think critical judgmental thoughts** about them when they act in a way that does not please us.
5. If we hold angry, bitter or critical thoughts against our wives, even though we do not speak them out, **it causes a heaviness and oppression** to come on them from satan, which pushes them down. They **lose their joy**, feel a failure, struggle hard to be a Christian and overcome condemnation.
6. *1Cor 11:3* - God has placed the husband as head of the wife and so he has a position to strongly influence his partner in life.
7. *Mat 7:1* - **Jesus said do not judge or condemn another person**. We can hold our wives in judgment, in our minds, by our thoughts.
8. This is an abusive attitude of the mind, and Jesus said, what we think in our minds is very real, *Mat 5:28*.
9. **It is time for us men to refuse to think or hold any critical, judgmental thoughts against our wives**. When she does something that does not please you, refuse all bitter, angry, judging thoughts against her. **Release her from your judgment** in Jesus’ Name and **pray the blessing of God** on her.
10. Pray something like, “Jesus, I forgive her now, and ask You to fill her with Your joy, truth, love, peace, faith, life, light, strength, healing.....”
11. **Accept your wife as she is, and keep thanking God for her**. She is God’s precious provision for you, *Gen 2:18, Pro 18:22, Mal 2:14,15*.
12. Do not pray that God will change her to be what you want her to be. **Believe God to fill her with His own life**, His glory, which is His own Person and Nature. *Zech 2:5(NKJV)*. “God is a wall of fire around my wife and is the glory in the midst of her.” His faith is in her now, His joy, peace, love, strength, truth, salvation ....
13. So far we have spoken about loving our wives by **showing them mercy**, forgiving them **and praying the blessing of the Lord upon them**.
14. A second way of showing love to our wives is to **be grateful and thank them** for all that they do. **Show appreciation** for their cooking, washing, cleaning, ironing, shopping and for all the many jobs that they do. Speak out thankfulness. **Train the children** to do this.
15. A third way of showing love to our wives is **to help them** with the cleaning, minding the children, washing the dishes after the meal, shopping, collecting the fire wood, cleaning the fire place, hanging out the washing, sweeping the floor and **many other jobs**.
16. A fourth way of showing love to our wives is to **lead daily praise, prayer and Bible Reading with the family**. This is the father’s responsibility. *Eph 6:4, Deut 6:7-9*. For a general coverage of family responsibilities go to Number 100 Pastor Notes.