

# MARRIAGE:

## What MEN want

Tim Butler Feb 20/21

“...each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.” EPHESIANS 5:33

### **C** \_\_\_\_\_ is conceived in expectations.

Then the LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.” GENESIS 2:18

I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; from whence shall my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. PSALM 121:1-2

“It is better to live in a corner of a roof than in a house shared with a contentious woman” PROVERBS 21:9

### **Seven practical ways in which the wife can be the helper, or be respectful of her husband:**

**1. Complimenting him in public; affirming his gifts, abilities, accomplishments.**

**2. Give him space to communicate about his day – or space to be silent.**

**3. Be limited in your expectations: “Contempt is conceived in expectations.”**

**4. Contemplate your husband’s struggles or pressures, versus, his shortcomings...and pray for him.**

In the same way, you wives, must accept the authority of your husbands, even those who refuse to accept the Good News. Your godly lives will speak to them better than any words. They will be won over by watching your pure, godly behavior.

1 PETER 3:1-2 (New Living Translation)

**5. Verbally, protect your husband’s ego.**

**6. Offer to join him in his interests/hobbies.**

**7. Offer to join him in the physical intimacy’s of the relationship.**

“An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. She does him good and not evil all the days of her life.” PROVERBS 31:10-12

“Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised” PROVERBS 31:30 All Scripture is from the New American Standard Bible unless otherwise noted.

**RECOMMENDED READING:** (also available on audiobook)

*Sacred Marriage* by Gary Chapman; *Love and Respect* by Emerson Eggerich.

Both of these books are available or can be ordered through the CedarCreek Bookstore.

## Living *it* out **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

(Discuss these questions in your LifeGroup, and/or with your family and friends.)

1. What are two or three 'A-ha' moments you've had during this marriage series? What have you been challenged to do differently?
2. How does a husband's need for respect differ from a wife's need for love?
3. What is the definition of contempt and how can we recognize it in our marriage relationships?
4. Think about the list of ways a wife can show respect for her husband. If you are married, which one of these stands out to you? If you are single, what challenges do you think you might face on this list?
5. Tim mentioned the Four Horsemen in marriage. While it might not be comfortable to discuss, talk about which horsemen you tend to insert into your relationships (whether you are married or not).
6. How can women encourage each other to remain contempt-free in their relationships with their husbands?
7. How can men communicate their need for respect in a way that is honest, yet loving toward his wife?

**FEATURED SONG:** *I'll Stand By You*, by Carrie Underwood

Perrysburg - Lindsey Frantz; Toledo - Lisa Warren; Whitehouse - Liz Newsome

**SCRIPTURE MEMORY**

(Memorize this verse for the month of February.)

**MATTHEW 16:24**  
(New Living Translation)

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me.”