

## THE UNDERSTANDING HUSBAND

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**Third, husbands are to honor their wives** (1 Pet. 3.7). The word translated as “honor” carries the idea of valuable. Husbands are to place a high value on their wives. Do you value your wife? Do you appreciate not only what she does, but also who she is? Do you value her thoughts and opinions enough to listen to her?

The verse goes on to say, “*as to the weaker vessel*” (1 Pet. 3.7). No, this does not mean that wives are weak. There are plenty of women who can beat men in arm wrestling. No, it doesn’t mean that wives are emotionally weak. A woman can be just as mentally tough as men. So how is she weak? If you read this verse closely, you will find that wives are not described as weak at all. Husbands are told to treat them as if they are delicate.

Imagine a valuable painting such as a Picasso. If someone handed you an original Picasso worth millions of dollars, how would you treat it? Would you not be extremely careful with it because of the fear of tearing it? Not because it is fragile, but because you do not want to be responsible to tearing such a valuable piece of art. Husbands are to place such a high value on their wives that they treat their precious spouse very carefully.

**Fourth, husbands are to consider their wives as fellow Christians.** We are to see our wives as “*heirs together of the grace of life*” (1 Pet. 3.7). The way you treat your wife could have an impact on their eternal destination. We need to interact with our wives as if we are both traveling together on our way to eternal life. Remembering that will help us to treat them with the understanding and honor they deserve.

**Fifth, husbands are to pray regularly.** Peter concludes these thoughts by suggesting that our prayers can be hindered if we are mistreating our wives (1 Pet. 3.7). God does not hear the prayers of those who are not loving their wives the way God expects them (Eph. 5.25). To have God’s ear leaning in our direction, we must treat our wives well. And when you are addressing your heavenly Father, do not forget to say a word of thanksgiving for your wife, and ask God to take care of her.

King Lemuel wrote that a wife’s worth “*is far above rubies*” (Prov. 31.11). This pandemic cannot be used as an excuse to hurt the ones we love. Use it to draw closer to your spouse, and decide to get through these hardships together. CLP

## NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

2424 McCarran St. ☐ North Las Vegas, NV ☐ 89030

Phone: (702) 642-3141 Email: [pruittle@gmail.com](mailto:pruittle@gmail.com)

Be sure to watch us live at [www.nlvchurchofchrist.com](http://www.nlvchurchofchrist.com)

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”  
-Mark 16.15

May 31, 2020

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### MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

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After addressing wives in 1 Peter 3.1-6, the Holy Spirit then turns to husbands and writes, “*Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding*” (1 Pet. 3.7).

If you place this into the overall context of the book, you will discover that Peter was addressing those who were facing hardship. It was written to “*the pilgrims of the dispersion*” (1 Pet. 1.1). These were people who suffered because of their Christianity. They were refugees forced to leave their homes behind and find some degree of safety in foreign lands. The thesis of the book is 1 Peter 4.16: “*Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter.*” In a book written to those who are suffering, the Holy Spirit tells them that in their suffering, they are to glorify God.

If you narrow down the context and read chapters two and three, you will read about how we are to act in are relationships. You will read about our relationship with unbelievers (1 Pet. 2.11,12), our relationship with government (1 Pet. 2.13-17), our relationship with our employers (1 Pet. 2.18-25), and our relationship with our spouse (1 Pet. 3.1-7). All through this text, those relationships are characterized by the word “submit.” We are to be humble ourselves and be submissive to one another in all our relationships. [inside]

## FAITH IS THE VICTORY

### 1 JOHN 5:1-5

#### INTRODUCTION: [READ TEXT]

1. We live in a place where we are surrounded by beauty. But we also live in a world filled with sin. (2 Pet. 2.4)
2. John connects belief, obedience, and love with the concept of victory. We overcame when we obeyed the gospel.
3. If faith is the victory that overcomes the world, what worldly traits has faith helped us to conquer?

#### I. FAITH OVERCOMES TRIBULATION

- A. **JOHN 16.33:** *“In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”*
1. This world is a world of tribulation by the one who is *“seeking whom he may devour”* (1 Pet. 5.8,9)
  2. But Christ has overcome the world. (Heb. 2.14)
- B. Faith gives peace in a world of unrest.
1. Life is short, but it is full of heartache and great loss that causes discouragement. (Job 14.1,2)
  2. Through faith in Christ we who are burdened by life can find real peace. (2 Cor. 7.4)

#### II. FAITH OVERCOMES DIVISION

- A. Jesus prays for unity. (John 17.20-24)
1. **VERSE 21:** *“that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us”*
  2. Why was unity so important? Because through unity, *“the world may believe”* (v. 21,23)
- B. Through Christ we have unity in a world of division.
1. Unity in spite of our difference. (Gal. 3.26-29)
  2. Unity based on the doctrine of Christ. (Eph. 4.4-6)

#### III. FAITH OVERCOMES PRIDE

- A. **ROMANS 12.2:** *“Be transformed by renewing your mind”*
1. How do we overcome the world? Renew your mind.
  2. **VERSE 3:** Change the way you think.
- B. Through Christ we can think properly about ourselves in a world full of pride. (Ps. 111.9; Phil. 4.13)

**CONCLUSION:** Through faith, we can have pure and undefiled religion (James 1.27).

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In a book written to those facing hardships, the Holy Spirit tells us to live in such a way to give glory to God. The way we do that is to be submissive to one another in our relationships. It is in this context, that these instructions in 1 Peter 3.7 are given to husbands.

Are you facing hardships today? Has this COVID-19 virus put your livelihood in jeopardy? Have you been forced to stay at home with your wife and children while you work? Has money become scarce because you have lost your job and you wonder how you are going to pay your mortgage? It is easy for hardships to cause tension in the home.

Reports have indicated that domestic abuse cases have skyrocketed due to the husbands and wives being at home together during these stressful times. How do husbands and wives learn to get along when they are both stressed from the consequences of COVID-19?

What did the Holy Spirit have to say through Peter? *“Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.”* (1 Pet. 3.7). There are five things that husbands are to do during times of distress.

**First, husbands are to submit to their wives.** Did you notice the word “likewise?” Remember that this flows from a series of relationships in which we are told to be submissive. Just as we are to be submissive to government, to our employers, to our husbands, so likewise husbands are to be submissive to their wives. The idea of submissive is to place yourself under your wife. We submit by subjugating our feelings and our needs to the feelings and needs of our wives. They come first.

**Second, husbands are to be understanding.** Did you notice how that is phrased? We are to *“dwell with them with understanding”* (1 Pet. 3.7). As we are forced to stay at home and spend more time with our families than we are used to spending, we are to dwell with them with the attitude of understanding. Husbands need to remember that they are not the only ones whose lives have been affected by this COVID-19 virus. Wives are just as affected and are just as under duress as the husbands. Husbands and wives are in this together. Listening to your wife and trying to understand her point of view will go a long way in bringing peace into the home.

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