

# Weekly Bulletin

Volume 10 Issue 2

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*Special points of interest:*

- Today we are blessed with the powerful ministry of Bishop Francis Wale Oke, President of the Sword of the Spirit Ministries with headquarters in Ibadan, Nigeria.
- We extend the Right Hand of Fellowship to Bishop Francis and all our visitors. WELCOME!
- The ACCF Fellowship meets weekly on Saturday from 4.00 PM at St George's Church, Hayton Road, Tillydrone, Aberdeen. Welcome!

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## THE CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE—A LIFE-LONG COVENANT

BY JOE & CYNTHIA IBOJIE

### Part 2 THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF A MAN IN MARRIAGE AND THE NEEDS OF A WIFE

#### THE RESPONSIBILITIES

Paul described in **Ephesians 5:23-33** what some of these are;

**1) (Verse 23)** “For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church”

This puts great responsibility on the husband.

The head co-ordinates the functions of the body. A man’s ability to serve is the basis of this headship.

The authority that the husband is the head of the home

is contingent on the ability to serve. The husband is accountable for the things that happen in the home even though the woman actually runs the house. Therefore husband leads only by example. He should be dependable and committed to the success of the marriage. In practice, **roles are negotiated**, each according to his or her ability.

**2) (Verse 23b)** “---And he is the Saviour of the body”

Jesus Christ saved us from sins, from the dangers of this world and from the flames of eternal condemnation. Husband should empower the wife to break free from any form of oppression in and out of the marriage. The husband should be a source of encouragement, help, and motiva-



Teaching/Instruction

tion.

**3) (Verse 24)** “--- Therefore as the church is subjected unto Christ so let the wives be subjected to their husbands in everything.” Most husbands would like their wives to be submissive to them just as church unto Jesus. Submission of wives does not imply any inferiority or lack of value...**Continued on page 2.**

### *Families Featured for Prayer this Week.*

1) Gogo & Ataisi; Tumu and Mimaemi Eneyok.

2) Ron & Pam

Fake.

3) Bayo & Bola; Lolu, Olu and Folu Famiye-sin.

*Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith (Galatians 6:10).*

**The Christian Marriage – A Life-Long Covenant: Part 2.** Continued from page 1...

This type of submission is not demanded but can only be willingly given and it applies to what is fitting and proper. Christ is patient towards the church, Christ keeps His promises, Christ is faithful and His strength is made manifest in the weakness of the church. Every husband should strive to attain these standards in relating to his wife. We are commanded in **Colossians 3:13** “*Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience*” always.

**4) (Verse 25)** “*Husbands love your wives even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it*” All married men have wives but only those that love their wives qualify as husbands.

**Proverbs 30:23** says, “*.. an unloved woman who is married makes the earth tremble*”. A husband must not only love the wife but must love as Christ loved the church that He gave Himself for it. This calls for self-sacrifice.

**1 Corinthians 13:4** “*love is patient, love is kind, it keeps no record of wrong; love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always perseveres and love never fails.*” For husbands, this is an important challenge. The husband’s love must be utterly selfless and sacrificial and devoid of bitterness, resentment or anger.

**5) (Verse 25)** “*That he may sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water*”

To sanctify means to make clean. On the final analysis, it is not how quarrelsome or nagging your wife is but how you have succeeded in enabling her to change these premarital problems. To sanctify also means to set apart. Your wife should have a special place in your heart and be set apart and protected from the pressures of the world.

**6) (Verse 27)** “*That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spots or wrinkle or any such thing that it might be holy, and without blemish*”

“Without blemish” mean radiant, perfect, pure and without blame. This is a follow-up to the preceding issue; the husband should enhance the potential for the wife to become presentable regardless of what she was before they got married.

**7) (Verse 29a)** “*For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourish it and cherish it even as the lord cherish the church*”

To hate your wife is to hate your own body. The husband should be a source of nourishment; physically, emotionally and by so doing he will earn her respect.

**8) (Verse 29b)** “*cherish it*”

This means to hold in high esteem. To cherish a wife is to make her feel important and appreciated. This feeling removes insecurity. Most women resort to nagging and jealousy as an expression of insecurity. Insecurity leads inferiority complex and inferiority complex leads to bitterness, anger and depression.

An insecure wife fights everything around her husband.

**9) 1 Peter 3:7** “*Husbands, likewise, dwell with them (wives) with understanding, giving honour to the wife as to the weaker vessel and being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered*”

Honour your wife as co-heir to the grace of life and to dwell with understanding means to establish good communication with her. Communication is basis of understanding. The Bible

calls Christian men to be students of the knowledge of her who is the wife. Weaker vessel means fragility of higher value. If you want her to be a lady, treat her as a lady.

**10) 1 Timothy 5:8** “*But if anyone does not provide for his own especially for those of his household he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever*”

A man should provide for his household and that include encouraging the wife to provide, if she is good at this. If the wife is a better provider for the family then she needs the continual encouragement and blessing of her husband. So men are prone to insecurity under this circumstance, but the way such handled, usually reflects the spiritual maturity of the couple.

## **THE NEEDS OF A WIFE**

Majority of men has no idea of the basic needs of a woman:

**1) A woman needs a man after God’s heart.** She needs to know and respect her husband as a man of God. It brings security to her spirit. It is reassuring for a wife to know that her husband hears the voice of God on a regular basis and it feels even better if he shares it with her.

**2) A wife needs intimacy and to be able to share the secret of her husband.** This often revolves round communication skills. Men are not given often to communication, more so with their wives.

Men love to talk about highfalutin subjects that have no direct bearing with their immediate environment but women like to talk about details of the immediate family. **As it is said, whereas a man desire is to undress his wife physically, a woman desires to undress her man emotionally. Women grieve softly and heal slowly but men grieve hard and heal fast. Men deal with facts and figures while women deal with feelings.**

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3) A wife needs consistent affection apart from sex. Women appreciate being touched and cared for outside the act of sex advances. She wants to know that she is important to her husband.

4) A wife needs a husband who will encourage her to find her rightful place in the body of Christ.

5) She needs a husband that would boost her self-esteem by encouragement and praises.

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## **Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity**

‘.... Behold, they are one people and they have all one language; and this is only the beginning of what they will do, and now nothing they have imagined they can do will be impossible for them....’

**African & Caribbean Christian Fellowship Aberdeen  
C/o St Georges' Church of Scotland  
Hayton Road. Tillydrone  
Aberdeen. AB24 3EN**

http://[www.accfaberdeen.org.uk](http://www.accfaberdeen.org.uk)  
Email: [accfabdn2001@hotmail.com](mailto:accfabdn2001@hotmail.com)

