

# Extreme Makeover – Family Edition

## Part Nine

### February 28, 2010

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You may be here today as a spouse who is very concerned about the health of your marriage, but you are receiving no help from your partner. They are just not where you are, spiritually. If that is your situation this morning, we trust that today's message will be an encouragement to you. The passage of Scripture that we want to consider this morning and also next Sunday is I Peter 3:1-7.

Now, before we begin to look at this Scripture as it relates to husbands and wives, I think it would be helpful to note a few general observations:

- First, it is apparent that Peter is speaking to \_\_\_\_\_ and then to \_\_\_\_\_ who are in a marriage where their spouse is either unsaved or has not submitted to the authority of Jesus Christ and the Word of God. "How does one respond to a spouse who has no \_\_\_\_\_ in spiritual things and thus is antagonistic and unreasonable to me?"
- Second, it is important to note the entire context of this passage, for Peter is giving advice to \_\_\_\_\_ in all sorts of difficult situations: Christian \_\_\_\_\_ living under the authority of a pagan and ungodly government (vs. 2:11-17), \_\_\_\_\_ who are owned by a harsh and unreasonable master (vs. 2:18-20), \_\_\_\_\_ living with disobedient husbands (3:1-6), and \_\_\_\_\_ living with disobedient wives (3:7). Note that Peter prefaces his instructions to husbands with the words, "*in the same way*," just as he does with the wives.
- Third, Peter reminds all of the believers who find themselves in these circumstances that their model and \_\_\_\_\_ is Jesus Christ Himself (2:21-25).
- The principles laid out by Peter in this passage apply not only to marriages where there is a \_\_\_\_\_ unequal yoke, but in Christian marriages in general.

Peter shares in this entire passage **the keys to transforming your marriage**. He gives men five keys that will transform their marriage:

#### I. \_\_\_\_\_ **With Your Wife**

If we take a closer look at this Greek word here, we find that a more literal translation of this phrase would be, "to dwell down," or "make a \_\_\_\_\_ for your wife." Another way we could phrase it in our modern-day jargon would be to say, "Do \_\_\_\_\_ with her." It seems that Peter's main concern in this phrase is the issue of \_\_\_\_\_. There is a lot more to marital intimacy than just living with another person. Intimacy in relationships requires time.

Husbands, the real issue with your wife is not to put a stopwatch on the amount of time you spend with her. Rather, she is looking for three things:

- She wants to know that you \_\_\_\_\_ to be with her.
- She is encouraged when she sees that you want to \_\_\_\_\_ on making your marriage better.
- When you are together, she wants your undivided, undistracted \_\_\_\_\_.

#### II. \_\_\_\_\_ **Your Wife**

Peter continues in verse seven with these words: "*You husbands in the same way, live with your wife in an understanding way...*" The K.J.V. says, "*...dwell with your wife according to knowledge...*" I think that Peter is saying that men need to be \_\_\_\_\_ of their wives. The importance of communication and full disclosure to women:

### III. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Wife

Peter goes on in verse seven: “*You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman...*” The K.J.V. uses the phrase, “*as the weaker vessel.*” This is not meant to be an insult to women. The term ‘vessel’ in the Bible speaks of the \_\_\_\_\_. When Peter calls women the ‘weaker’ partners, he does not imply \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ inferiority but is recognizing women’s \_\_\_\_\_ limitations. Peter is saying that part of the God-ordained role of the husband is to \_\_\_\_\_, shelter and \_\_\_\_\_ his wife. How can men provide this for their wives?

### IV. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Wife

Peter says, finally, “*Show her honor...*” The word ‘show’ indicates that this honor is something that is \_\_\_\_\_ by her and others that is demonstrated \_\_\_\_\_. Proverbs 3:27 says, “*Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.*” How do we make this practical?