

“Living & Loving in the Home: Part 3” 1 Peter 3:7

1. How do Peter’s words call for Christian husbands to live differently in relationship to their wives? How might obedience to these commands change negative perceptions of the notion of “submission”?

2. For the husbands, what does it mean to become a “student” of your wife?

If you had to honestly give yourself a letter grade in this area, what would you receive?

Wives, what grade would you give your husband?

Lovingly share with him ways he can bring up that grade!

3. What does Peter give as the reason why husbands are to live with their wives in an understanding way and to show them honor (1 Peter 3:7)?

We’re often told that if we want to have a stronger marriage, we should improve our prayer lives. As we see in verse 7, improving our marriages can also improve our prayer lives!

4. Colossians 4:2 says, “Devote yourselves to prayer.” Husbands, one of the most important things you could do each day is to spend a little time to pray with and for your wife. God has entrusted her to you as a “fellow heir of the grace of her life” and we should consider it a privilege to honor and cherish her.

What are practical ways you can honor and cherish your spouse this week?

5. Robertston McQuilkin stepped down from the presidency of a university in 1990 to be the full-time caregiver of his wife, Muriel, who had developed Alzheimer’s. McQuilkin wrote of this decision: “Had I not promised, 42 years before, ‘in sickness and in health . . . till death do us part’? This was no grim duty to which I stoically resigned, however. It was only fair. She had, after all, cared for me for almost four decades with marvelous devotion; now it was my turn. And such a partner she was! If I took care of her for 40 years, I would never be out of her debt. It’s not that I have to, *I get to.*”

When was the last time you looked over your wedding vows with your spouse and recommitted those promises to one another and the Lord?

6. As Gary Thomas writes in his book, *Cherish*, the best male ballet dancers “recognize that their role is all about showcasing” the ballerina’s beauty. He is there to “set her up, catch her, and support her...to make the beautiful more beautiful”. Husbands, in what ways are you “showcasing” the beauty and gifts in your wife? What if you started each day asking her: “How can I support you today? How can I make your day better?”