



# Christian Marriage Today



## The ROLE OF THE HUSBAND

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**Memory Verse:** “For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.” Ephesians 5:23

**W**elcome to the online Bible study lesson – *The Role of the Husband*.

Listen, your role as the head of your home is more than just holding down a job and squashing bugs. If you look at your family as if they were a football team, you as the husband have the most crucial position of all the other team members. You are the Quarterback, the General as some football lovers say. A lot is resting on your shoulders.

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**T**he game of football is a good analogy of the role of the husband. Not because the responsibilities are the same but because of the make up of the game. Let’s take a look. In the game of football you have 11 people from each team. We will look at just 1 team. The 11 people are; left tackle, right tackle, left guard, right guard, center, tight end, wide out, slot end, full back, tail back and quarter back.

The husband in this example would be the quarter back. Every position has a different responsibility, a different blocking scheme, a different release, a different person to block and a different approach. The ultimate goal for the team is to get to the end zone and score. But they all have to work together to do it. The role of the quarter back is to get the team in the best play possible and successfully drive the team to the end zone. Likewise, the husband’s role is to get the family in the best

position. The quarterback must be **selfless, provide direction**, and also be willing **to make sacrifices** for the team.

## **This is Your Role**

**Selfless Servant Leader** - Christian husbands cannot be “selfish” in the decisions they make for their families. They must always consider what is best for the team so to speak. In addition, because the husband is the head of the woman as Christ is the head of the church, they must lead as Christ led. How did Christ lead? He was a servant leader. Mark 10:42-45 says “So Jesus called them together and said, “You know that in this world kings are tyrants, and officials lord it over the people beneath them. But among you it should be quite different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be the slave of all. For even I the Son of Man, came here not to be served but to serve others, and to give my life as a ransom for many.”

**Comfort and Guide** – Before Jesus left the earth; He told His disciples that He was going to send a comforter, the Holy Spirit, See John 16:7. Yes, the Holy Spirit comforts us but He also guides us by leading us into all truth, See John 16:13. Likewise it is the responsibility of you as the husband to be a comfort and a guide to your family. Don’t buy into the lie that you must display a hard persona; you should at all times display the character of Christ. You must know when to be stern, and when to apply comfort. Never be ashamed to show your sensitive more caring side to your wife or children. Also, equally as important is your ability to guide your family. Not only physically but spiritually as well.

**Willing to Sacrifice** - Christ made the ultimate sacrifice for His bride, the church; He gave His life. Am I suggesting you die for you wife? Well, if it came down to that, yes you should be willing to exchange your life for hers. But outside of that, you must be willing to sacrifice little things on a daily basis. How can you sacrifice? You can sacrifice your time by doing something she’s been asking you to do that you keep putting off; or you could sacrifice your comfort by joining her in an activity that makes her happy. As they say in sports, “sometimes you’ve gotta take one for the team.” As a Christian husband, you must sacrificially pour out your life on your wife’s behalf so she can become all that God intended for her to be.

**Nourish and Cherish**- “So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church”, Ephesians 5:28-29. To

nourish means to sustain with nutriment; supply with what is necessary for life, health and growth. To cherish means to give affection, care, or shelter to something. Cherish suggests regarding or treating something as an object of affection or as valuable.

### **ASSIGNMENT #1:**

- Memorize the memory verse and write it on the line below:



- How is the position of quarterback in football similar to your role as a husband?

- What are three examples provided by Christ that you should follow?

- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_

- Explain what it means to be a selfless servant leader.

- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_

- As a Christian husband, how do you think you can nourish and cherish your wife?

- How can you be a comfort and a guide to your wife?

### **What the Role of the Husband is NOT**

For decades believers and non-believers alike have misunderstood the role of the husband in the home. They hastily read Ephesians 5:23 and concluded that to be the head meant that the husband was in control, while the wife could only speak when

spoken to. When in fact, the relationship the husband has with his wife is suppose to mimic the relationship that Christ has with his bride, the church.

To get a better understanding of what the husband's role should look like, let's take a look at what the husband's role is not:

**Dictator**- a person exercising absolute power; a ruler who has absolute, unrestricted control in a government. In a dictatorship, the people have absolutely no say in anything that happens. Your position as husband is not that of a dictator. You should not aim to control your wife. As your helpmeet, it would serve you well to always listen to her input. Remember, God created her because he knew there was something she could add to your life.

**Boss** – a person who employs or superintends workers; manage. A person who makes decisions, exercises authority, dominates, etc. A boss has a relationship with his employee that is primarily based on performance. If the employee does not perform, the boss has the option to terminate his employment or take disciplinary action. You and your wife do not have an employer/employee relationship, it is in no way based on performance. Furthermore, there is no clause in your marriage covenant that allows termination if her performance is not satisfactory. You are no better than she is and therefore there should be a mutual respect for one another.

**Passive Non Leader**- a person who is only a leader by word. In actuality, he makes no decisions and has little to no input over matters. The passive husband would sit by and allow his husband to make all the decisions and basically run the household. This is not what God intended and therefore is out of order.

## ASSIGNMENT #2:

- Marriage is a dictatorship (T or F)
- The relationship between a husband and wife is similar to a boss and an employee (T or F)
- What is a Passive non-leader?
- The relationship between a boss and an employee is based on \_\_\_\_\_.
- The relationship between a husband and a wife should mimic the relationship \_\_\_\_\_ has with the\_\_\_\_\_.
- As your helpmeet, your wife should not have any input in family decisions (T or F)

## Scriptures to Review

Ephesians 5:23

Ephesians 5:28-29

Mark 10:42-45

John 16:7

John 16:13

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Dear Friend,

Thank you for Visiting Christian Marriage Today. Hopefully this study has in some small way increased your knowledge.

If you continue to draw close to God, you will find that He will draw closer to you.

We pray God's continued blessings upon you and your marriage.

Peace and Blessings!

*Ministers Mike and Wanda*