

A GODLY HUSBAND

By Keith Greer

To have a good marriage both parties must submit to God's will in following His pattern in that relationship. What makes a godly husband?

Leaves father and mother. "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." (Matthew 19:5) Yes, for a time the husband was a son in his parents' home. Now he is to take the headship of his own family.

One who cleaves to his wife. "So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate. (Matthew 19:6) This means that the relationship must be "cemented, glued together." By becoming "one flesh" they cease to be individuals. Selfishness in a marriage will weaken the glue!

One who is head of the wife. "For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body." (Ephesians 5:23) This headship means leadership-God designed it to be so, 1 Corinthians 11:3. It does not mean he should become overbearing or a dictator .He should do good for the entire family unit - but He is head!

Dwells according to knowledge. "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 Peter 3:7) Knowledge is important in all of life's way- especially in marriage. What knowledge does man need in his marriage? What is God's will? What is the marriage relationship about? Knowing his wife and how to work together to meet her needs. Yes, husbands we need to understand our wives! How can we do that? Communicate with them and most importantly -listen to them. Many husbands, who are Christians, may not be godly husbands because they lack a true understanding of their role in marriage. Good marriages don't just happen by chance. Each must understand their roles and live by God's rules. Are you a godly husband? ***