

# HOW TO CHANGE YOUR WIFE

## Introduction and Review

## Husbands Love Your Wives as Christ Loves the Church *Eph 5:25-27*

### A. Love her unconditionally. *Eph 5:25a; 1 Cor 13:4-7*

1. The world has cheapened the meaning of love.
2. Your love is not dependent upon the worthiness of the beloved.
3. Christ loved you when you were not worthy to be loved. *Eph 2:1-3; Rom 5:8, 10; 1 John 4:10*
4. Seek the good of your wife, whether she deserves it or not.
5. Christlike love (agape) is not merely a feeling or a passion. It is a commitment.
6. You are to be the initiator in love. *1 John 4:19*
7. Christlike love comes from the heart.

B. Love her sacrificially. *Eph 5:25b*

1. Christ's love is demonstrated on the Cross. *Eph 5:2; Gal 2:20*
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Christ's love for the church is particular. *John 10:11*
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Give up your life for your bride.
  - Paul is not merely saying you must be willing to give up your life.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - Sacrifice your rights and interests for her good. *Phil 2:3ff; 1 Cor 7:33*
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Authority has been given to serve. *John 13:3ff; Mark 10:45; Matt 20:20-28*

C. Love her with a purifying love. *Eph 5:26-27*

1. Christ our Bridegroom is committed to making you holy. *Eph 1:4; Titus 2:14; John 17:19; Phil 1:6; Col 1:22; Rev 19:7*
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Your love for your wife should make her more beautiful spiritually. *2 Cor 11:2*
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Do you have the courage to make biblical decisions which go against her preferences?  
*Gen 3:6; 16:2*

## Husbands, Love your Wives as Your Own Bodies *Eph 5:28-30*

A. Love your wife as you love yourself. *Eph 5:28*

1. You love her because you are united.

2. She is not just like a part of yourself. She is part of you. *Gen 2:23*

- Paul assumes every man loves himself unconditionally.

- It is unnatural to abuse your own body. *Eph 5:29*

B. Nourish your wife. *Eph 5:29b*

1. Christ has provided richly for you! *2 Pet 2:3-4; Eph 1:7, 9; 2:5-6; 3:6, 12; 4:11*

2. Provide for her materially. *Gen. 3:17ff; 1 Tim 5:8; Titus 2:3ff*

3. Meet her emotional needs. *1 Pet 3:7; Jas 1:19a*

4. Meet her spiritual needs.

5. Meet her sexual needs. *1 Cor 7:3-5; 1 Tim 2:15; 5:14; Exod 21:10; Prov 5:15-19*

C. Cherish your wife. *Eph 5:29c*

1. Understand her. *1 Pet 3:7*

2. Be patient and gentle with her. *Col 3:19*

3. Treat her with respect. *Prov 31:11*

4. Express appreciation and affection to her. *Prov 31:28b*

D. If you mistreat your wife, your relationship with God will be affected. *1 Pet 3:7b*

E. Questions.

1. What should you do if your wife is hard to love?

2. What should you do if you don't have loving feelings towards your wife?

## Concluding Applications: Love Her and Lead Her!

A. Application to singles.

B. Application to husbands: How can anyone love like that? *1 John 4:19*



### Books

Priolo, Lou, *The Complete Husband*.



### Supplemental Resources

“50 Questions to Ask Your Wife.”