

A radically good marriage

Colossians 3:18-19

- I. Respect: Wives, respectfully submit to your husbands as Jesus wants you to (Colossians 3:18).
 - A. “*Submit yourselves*” – Submission is a wife’s voluntary *attitude*, not a husband’s *right* to enforce (see Philippians 3:21).
 - B. “*Respect*” – To submit is to unconditionally respect your husband (Ephesians 5:23-24, 33; 1 Peter 3:1-6).
 - * Wives must seek safety if abused.
 - C. “*As is fitting in the Lord*” – Submission is like Jesus submitted to the Father (1 Corinthians 11:3).
 - * Wives cannot submit to do what is sin (Acts 5:29).
- II. Love: Husbands, lead your wife by loving her as Jesus loved us, and be gentle (Colossians 3:19).
 - A. Leading like Christ leads – “*Head*” – God appointed husbands to lead the home (Ephesians 5:23-24).
 - B. Loving like Christ loves – “*Love...gave himself up*” – To love is to unconditionally sacrifice your rights for your wife like Christ did for us (3:19a; Ephesians 5:25).
 - C. Leading for the purpose Christ leads – “*Cleanse/holy*” – Leading for her spiritual growth (Ephesians 5:26-32).
 - D. “*Not harsh*” – Husbands must be gentle (3:19b).
 - Harshness hurts, but gentleness heals (Ephesians 5:28-29).