

SESSION 2



LOVING GOD'S WOMAN BY PROVIDING FOR HER

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01 A REAL MAN PROVIDES.

Ephesians 5:28-30:

"In the same way husbands should love their 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 Christ does the church, because we are members of his body."

- A. There is a _____ instinct of _____ - _____
in every man.
- Every man takes care of his body. He _____ it food and drink, and he _____ it from harm.
 - God's point in Ephesians 5 is that the man should do the same for God's woman: _____ for her and _____ her.
 - The man who leads like _____ meets the needs of his wife and family. A real man _____ for those under his care.
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02

A MAN'S PROVISION IS PHYSICAL.

- A. The man provides and meets the physical needs of God's woman: food, clothing, shelter, and the resources to buy the essentials.

“ The husband bears the **primary** responsibility to put bread on the table. Again the word **primary** is important. Both husbands and wives always work. But their normal spheres of work are man: breadwinner; wife: domestic manager, designer, nurturer. And that never has meant that there are no seasons in life when a wife cannot work outside the home or that the husband cannot share the domestic burdens...”

- JOHN PIPER, *THIS MOMENTARY MARRIAGE*, 89-90

- The man is _____ for providing a safe home environment, a reliable vehicle, reasonable clothing, and sufficient food for those under his care.
- Providing for God's woman is such a _____
_____ the Lord warns us:

1 Timothy 5:8:

“But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”

- God has promised to meet your _____. In the same way God will meet His woman's needs through _____.

03

A MAN'S PROVISION IS EMOTIONAL.

A. Meeting her _____ needs is not enough. God's woman has _____ needs that must be met.

“ You can be a millionaire and buy your wife things untold and leave her emotionally bankrupt.” - ANONYMOUS

- King Jesus goes beyond our physical needs. He meets our emotional needs. He gives us joy and peace. He restores and gives rest to our souls.
- Like Jesus, we need to strive to meet the _____ of God's woman.

B. The Christ-like man provides emotional support, sincerely and often.

- Many women are dying inside for a _____, some _____, and positive _____.
- Women need to be _____ often, _____ often, and _____ with _____ love.
- Research on female infidelity indicates that women do not usually fall for a man who is good-looking or “sexy” but for one who pays attention to her and is sensitive to her specific needs.

“ I want a man with a slow hand
I want a lover with an easy touch
I want somebody who will spend some time
Not come and go in a heated rush
I want somebody who will understand
When it comes to love, I want a slow hand”

- THE POINTER SISTERS

C. What are a woman's most _____ emotional needs?

1. Women need _____ and _____.
2. Women need partnership, and they want you to _____.
3. Women need _____, encouragement, and _____.
4. Women need to feel _____ and _____.
5. Women need to be _____.
6. Women need _____. As Proverbs 31:28 puts it:
“... her husband ... praises her.”



04

A MAN'S PROVISION IS SPIRITUAL.

Ephesians 5:25-27:

“Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, **that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word**, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.”

A. As men, we love God's woman with a _____ love.

- To sanctify means “to set apart to _____”.
- A man is to be a primary sanctifying _____ of God, the channel of His grace in his wife's life.

“*The man is responsible for the spiritual well-being of his wife. Her sanctification is his responsibility. There is probably no male task that has been more neglected in our society than this one.*” (JBMW, Spring, 2016)

- R. C. SPROUL

B. This is probably a good time for each of us to ask ourselves, “Is my _____ more like _____ because she is _____ me?”





- Do I hold her back _____?
- Is she a better _____?
- Is she a better _____?
- Is she a better _____?
- There is no spiritual _____; your words, thoughts, actions, and inactions have _____.
- You are _____ your wife towards King Jesus or _____ her away from Him.
- _____ or _____? You decide.

C. How do we sanctify God's woman?

- The _____ is the main instrument of sanctification. Jesus prayed, "*Sanctify them by the truth, your word is truth.*" (*John 17:17*) Sanctification begins and ends with the Word of God.
 1. _____ her the Word.
 - Work through a Bible reading plan. This can be as simple as 5-10 minutes of reading, a few minutes of conversation together, and a couple of minutes of prayer.
 2. _____ her the Word.
 - This can look different for all of us. But it needs to be tangible:
 - Be an example: live the Word in front of her.
 - Be an educator: guide her the Word.
 - Be an encourager: build her up in the Word.

3. _____ a good church, and _____ every chance you get.

- Find a church where the Word of God is faithfully preached and taught.
- Men, see to it that your _____ is being cleansed _____ in the water of the _____.

Hebrews 10:24-25:

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

D. You're the _____ leader.

- You cannot _____ your wife what you do not _____. You cannot _____ her where you are not _____.

“ To provide spiritual food for the family, you must know spiritual food. This means that a man must go hard after God. You can only lead spiritually if you are growing in your own knowledge of God and love for God.”

- JOHN PIPER

- Paul starts **Ephesians 5:25** with a call to husbands to love their wives sacrificially:
“Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word.”



- You can't _____ her if you don't _____ for her.
- Notice the sacrifice has a _____ – “that he might sanctify her”
- It will take _____, _____, and _____ . You may have to give some things up.

According to a recent Nielsen Company audience report, the average man in the United States spends approximately 10 hours and 39 minutes each day in front of a screen.

iPhone. Netflix. Laptops. Video Games. 10 hours and 39 minutes a day.

“ *The greatest thing about television, social media, and video games is that we no longer have an excuse for not doing more for those we love..”*

- CHRIS HARPER



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. As men, the world tells us we were created to consume. The Bible shows us that we were created to provide. What is your idea of providing for those you love? What influences helped shape this idea?
2. Today, we learned that a man's provision is *physical*, *emotional*, and *spiritual*. Which of these areas are you thriving in? Which areas do you need to grow in? Explain.
3. You are called to lead God's woman spiritually. Most men find this area of provision most difficult. Why do you think that is? Explain.

YOUR BETTERMAN REFLECTION:

Before our next session, take a moment this week to reflect on your notes, and then answer the following question: What is one thing you can do to help spiritually provide for God's woman? Write your answer in the space below, and then do it!

