

SESSION 3



LOVING GOD'S WOMAN BY PROTECTING HER



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01

LET'S TALK ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS TO PROTECT GOD'S WOMAN.

Jesus is the definition of what it means to protect your wife when Scripture says:

Ephesians 5:25:

"He gave Himself up for her..."

“ In the words ‘gave himself up for her,’ we hear the saving sacrifice of Jesus Christ. When Christ gave himself up for us, he took our place. He bore our sins (1 Peter 2:24) and became a curse for us (Galatians 3:13) and died for us (Romans 5:8); and because of all this we are reconciled to God and saved from his wrath...” - JOHN PIPER

A. When Paul calls a husband to love his wife like Jesus loves the church, he intends for him to _____ her at all costs.

- This begins with _____ protection. Men are to protect their wives from _____ danger and _____.
- Men, talk to your wife about her sense of security.
 - Does she feel _____ with you?
 - Does she feel _____ in your home?
 - Does she feel _____ in her car?

B. Never put your wife in _____ way; that's your _____.

- Hearing a loud noise downstairs, a real man would never say, *"I checked it out last time. It's your turn now."*
- Your call is to protect your wife, at all costs. She is a _____ from God, and her _____ is in your hands.

C. Encourage your wife to be wise, and see to it she has what she needs to be safe.

- This may include getting her special training or equipment. Find out her comfort level and equip her with what she needs to be safe.

D. Protection is written on a man's DNA, but realize this can be a very sensitive topic.

- A woman can feel _____ if her husband is too restrictive in his _____. But it is very important.
- Edgar Rice Burroughs wrote in *Tarzan of the Apes* that *"He (Tarzan) knew that she (Jane) was created to be protected and that he was created to protect her..."*
- A "protective" sentiment is not _____—it's natural.
 - Real men know that women are to be _____, not _____.
 - Real men know that women are to be _____, not _____.
 - Real men know that women are to be treated with _____ instead of nothing special whatsoever.

02

A MAN GIVES EMOTIONAL PROTECTION.

A. A real man protects his wife from _____ harm.

- Be aware of emotionally _____ people. Life is full of emotionally _____ people. You must recognize those people and _____ your wife. This may include lovingly confronting:
 - Family _____
 - _____
 - Fellow _____

B. Protect her from _____.

Colossians 3:19:

“Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them.”

- Paul instructs husbands to love their wives, and follows it with 7 words – “and do not be harsh with them.”

“ I used to think that if a man came into my house to attack my wife, I would certainly stand up to him. But then I came to realize that the man who enters my house and assaults my wife every day is me, through my anger, my harsh words, my complaints, and my indifference. As a Christian, I came to realize that the man I need to kill in order to protect my wife, is myself as a sinner...” - RICHARD PHILLIPS, *THE MASCULINE MANDATE*

- Paul singles out this one component – _____ – as his one specific concern for men.
- That tells us something about Paul’s awareness of the _____ and _____ of too many men.

C. Men, rather than being _____ we must be _____.

- Gentleness is a very important, but often undervalued, attribute of effective leadership – particularly in a husband.
- Gentleness is so essential to the Christian experience that Jonathan Edwards suggested it may very well be called “the Christian spirit.”
- “Gentleness” can be defined as mildness in dealing with others in light of their _____ and _____, which are rooted in the image of God.

“Gentleness is illustrated by the way we would handle a carton of exquisite crystal glasses; it is the recognition that the human personality is valuable but fragile, and must be handled with care.”

- JERRY BRIDGES, *THE PRACTICE OF GODLINESS*, 220

- Men, don't break the _____! Your wife is God's _____. Treat her with the gentleness you would want your daughter treated with.
- Men, do not be harsh with God's woman. Love her with a great measure of gentleness!



“ I choose gentleness... Nothing is won by force. I choose to be gentle. If I raise my voice may it be only in praise. If I clench my fist, may it be only in prayer. If I make a demand, may it be only of myself.” - MAX LUCADO

03

A MAN GIVES SPIRITUAL PROTECTION.

- A. The spiritual _____ confronting marriages and families are _____ and often rooted in evil spiritual _____. We must protect God's woman.
- How do we spiritually protect God's woman?

- B. Protect her from false _____.

Acts 20:29-31:

“I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore **be alert**, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears.”



- As men, we are called to *be alert*, watching out for our wives and stewarding what they see, hear, and read.
- The world's largest library is at our fingertips, stocked with lousy literature, lies, and destruction. You must filter your family's intake.
- Check with your _____ if you are concerned about something you, your wife, or your children are reading.

C. Protect her from _____.

1 Peter 5:8:

"Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."

- One way to protect your wife from Satan is by being quick to _____, _____, and _____.

Ephesians 4:26-27:

"Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil."

- _____ gives the devil an open door...
 - A _____ chance for Satan to speak lies and accusation
 - To _____ seeds of contempt
 - To _____ an attitude of bitterness and division in our hearts

- _____ your wife means taking the lead in
_____ reconciliation.

D. Protect her from _____ and worldly
_____.

Mark 14:38:

“Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

- Watch for worldly influences in your own life and that of your wife and children.
- _____, social _____, and worldly
_____ can be spiritually devastating. Protect God’s woman.

“ One man on the wall is better than 100 behind it...”

- DR. BRYAN HURLBUTT



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Today, we learned that a man's protection is *physical*, *emotional*, and *spiritual*. Which of these areas are you thriving in? Which areas do you need to grow in? Explain.
2. Where has harshness manifested itself in your life? How did it creep in? How do you fight against it?
3. Unresolved anger gives Satan an open door. Men are prone to one of two responses: avoid anger and confrontation, or lash out in anger and create confrontation. Which are you inclined towards? Where does that come from? Discuss how you should resolve your anger.

YOUR BETTERMAN REFLECTION:

Before our next session, take a moment this week to reflect on your notes and contemplate this thought: Satan is after the woman in your life, and he can use you to get to her. What is one thing/area in your life that is most susceptible to Satan's influence? How do you defend against the evil one?

