

1 PETER 3:7 ASV Ye husbands, in like manner, dwell with your wives according to knowledge, giving honour unto the woman, as unto the weaker vessel, as being also joint-heirs of the grace of life; to the end that your prayers be not hindered.

We realize that our lives are given to us so that we may bring glory to God. When you first decided to become a Christian, you likely believed it meant recognizing that you were a sinner and choosing to accept the salvation that God offered. This was certainly the most important reason for our calling. However, we eventually understand that God did not call us simply to save us.

Instead, He called us to reflect Himself, so that we might become a clear image of Him, and so that other people who look at us might be able to see God.

ISAIAH 43:7 ASV every one that is called by my name, and whom I have created for my glory, whom I have formed, yea, whom I have made.

The roles and the gender you have were given to you; you did not get to choose them. When you began your journey of faith, you did not understand the complete power and control of God, which we call His sovereignty. You did not know that God, in His sovereign power, allowed the first humans to fall into sin. God could have prevented Eve from eating the forbidden fruit at any time He wished. God has the power to stop things; for instance, He can send a dream. He could have warned Eve and said, "Be careful, the serpent is coming." Instead, He gave her the command not to eat the fruit, and He never gave her a warning afterward. That was His decision. He never stopped her. It is His right to act this way. He is fully in control when He does so. He did not send Eve a dream. He did not give Eve a warning. Adam was a prophet, meaning he could receive messages from God, yet God did not give Adam a vision saying, "Your wife is about to sin; go talk to her." He never did that.

However, with Abraham, God did intervene. He stopped Sarah's husband, Abraham, and He stopped a king from taking Sarah as his wife. He gave the king a dream, warning him, "If you touch her, you will certainly die." That is true. If you look at it, you know, Abraham lied, found himself in that condition. Adam did not lie. Adam did not do anything, and He did not keep Adam's wife. It is God's sovereignty.

He did not have to make a serpent. He did not have to allow the serpent's seed to mingle. The serpent is the only creature that can mingle with the human race. He did not have to do that, but He did it. It was His plan and His purpose.

We have arrived at a point where we were significantly fearful of sin yet lacked comprehension of its nature. Furthermore, we did not understand the distinction between "sin" and "sins." However, God guided us through that state of apprehension concerning both. Subsequently, within a specific context of our Christian life and the church, He commenced an explanation.

Reflecting on this, we are inclined to say, "I certainly wish I had possessed that understanding earlier." Yet, it was within His providence when He chose to reveal it, and who would ultimately benefit from that revelation. This was exclusively for His purpose. The same principle applies to our relationships. He could have exposed many of our failings, perhaps in our roles as parents, how we interacted with our children concerning this message, or how we may have inadvertently caused them to view this message unfavourably.

Furthermore, He could have addressed the actions of even the ministers and preachers, how the message was proclaimed, the demands that were imposed, and the manner of its implementation. He had the opportunity to reveal these matters 25-30 years ago, but He chose not to do so. That is indeed the case.

The same principle applies to you in your roles as parents, as husbands, and as wives. When the time comes for God to disclose something that will continue to bring glory to His name and elevate you to a state where you can more fully embody God's nature, one can only reflect what He chooses to reveal. Your capacity for reflection is limited to His revelation. In this current season, He is making this revelation. Consequently, we become accountable and conscious of the fact that God is to be glorified within our specific roles.

Previously, we believed that Christianity was limited to our personal spiritual lives, or to abstaining from actions such as lying, stealing, or cheating; however, this narrow view does not encompass the totality of Christian living. Indeed, even non-Christians can adhere to such moral standards.

We are summoned at this time to demonstrate, through the various roles we fulfil, a deep awareness that these roles have been entrusted to us, and that we must consciously strive to reflect God within them. This involves considering how God, in His essence, reflects Himself as a husband, or is reflected in a wife, how He reflects Himself in the role of a father, how He reflects Himself in the capacity of a leader, or any other designation. These roles are not arbitrary occurrences; they are specifically designed for us. They are intended as vehicles for us to reflect His glory.

While we have fallen short and will inevitably continue to do so, that is not the central issue. The critical point is that when God is prepared to reveal Himself, there must be receptive hearts ready to receive the revelation. There must be hearts that become acutely aware of the role they are playing and dedicate themselves fully to mastering that role. In this time, we are asked to think about the different parts we play. We should be very aware that these parts are given to us. We must be sure to show God in them. We should think about how He would act. How God shows Himself as a husband, or as a wife. How He shows Himself as a father, or as a leader, or in any other part. These are not just things that happen to us. They are planned for us so we can show God's glory.

We have made mistakes, and we will certainly continue to make mistakes, but that is not the most important matter. The important matter is that when the time comes for God to reveal a truth, there must be human hearts that are prepared to accept it. There must be people who become aware of the special part they are meant to play. It is necessary for them to put forth every effort to understand and learn that role completely.

Consequently, we are presently summoned to think deeply, within the various roles we fulfil. The degree of our awareness that these positions are divinely bestowed, necessitating our unwavering commitment to manifest God within them. This includes considering how God would operate, how God, indeed, expresses Himself as a husband, or is reflected in a wife, how He is embodied in the capacity of a father, how He is demonstrated in the function of a leader, or in any other capacity. These are not merely incidental occurrences. They are purposefully designed for us. They are intended to provide us with the opportunity to reflect and bring Him glory. We are called Christians because we ought to be Christ-like.

I am trying my best to work on the head, and as I am doing it, I am trying to do it in a two-fold manner that will bring enlightenment to the shepherd and to the husband. Get the Pastor right, the congregation will be right. Get the husband right, the family will be okay. If we can fix the head, we can get the body right. Those who will not get right are not part of the body anyway. That is what we want to do.

We want to work on the head. If God can get me right, you will be right. But if, I do not care how right you are, you have got the wrong head, you always mess up. You have got a perfectly healthy human being, and they are off in their head, and guess what happens. You say, "well, that is the people I am living with right now." But you get the head right, and everything. That is why it is important that God gets, you know, He always comes with the head, the message of the age. He gets the man right. Then that man can, you know, can work. Then he can do something. But if you do not get the head right, we have problems. We, as husbands, need to get right.

ISAIAH 43:7 Everyone that is called by my name, for I have created him for my glory. I have formed him, yea, I have made him.

These people that I have formed for myself, they shall declare my praise. To be a good husband, a truly *godly* husband, is a testament to commitment and grace. When your wife affirms, "You are a good husband," it is a beautiful echo of divine praise, acknowledging the strength and love you pour into your marriage. Similarly, for a wife to be called *godly* and *good* means she approaches her role with devotion, fulfilling her duties not out of obligation, but out of a spirit of honour and dedication.

Even when imperfections arise for we all have our faults, the consistent effort and unwavering commitment to one another shine through, transforming the everyday into an enduring partnership.

This is the foundation of a marriage that truly understands and reflects God's love. That is why when Brother Branham's wife, when she, you know, blasphemed really in the sense of coming against God's servant or having an attitude towards him, Brother Branham was able to say, "Lord, you know, this woman did this and this and this and this and this. You know, she is a good wife." He appealed to her role that she played faithfully. He did not say, "Lord, she did not lie, she did not steal, she did not cheat." He did not go to that. He went to her faithfulness in the role that she played. Her role was important, you know, to benefit the servants of God. The sacred calling of the helpmate is a beautiful and profound gift.

Eve was brought to Adam not just as a partner, but as his essential support, a living wellspring of comfort and strength. Her role is to stand with him in the arena of life, to be the steady anchor when storms rage, and the gentle hand that soothes his weary soul. She is called to share his burdens, not to carry them alone, but to lighten the load through shared wisdom, deep listening, and unwavering compassion. To be a helpmate is to be a true friend, a confidante, a source of emotional and spiritual renewal, enabling him to rise and fulfil his highest purpose, knowing he is fully understood and unconditionally loved. This is a partnership built on divine intention, a powerful alliance that makes two hearts stronger than one.

The example of Brother Branham reveals a profound truth: when we faithfully embrace our given role and serve others with diligence and love, we build a powerful spiritual currency. His heartfelt appeal to God, grounded in the genuine help and support the woman had provided to him, his children, and his ministry was undeniably potent.

This is the magnificent power granted to us when we fully commit to our calling! When you step up, when you lend your strength, when you become a true helper in your sphere, you are not just performing a duty; you are establishing a divine connection. Your faithfulness on earth grants you favour and power in the heavens. Play your role whatever it may be with all your heart and witness the incredible power you gain with God!

It says here, the people that I formed myself shall declare my praise. Shall declare my praise. Whosoever offered praise glorified me.

When you do a job well, you deserve praise. If you are a good husband, a loyal father, or a faithful wife, you are doing your part. If you are a committed believer, a minister, a deacon, or a trustee, you are serving. Anyone who honours you for doing your job well is truly honouring God. This is because you should be doing everything to show the goodness of God. We are not trying to get famous or get people to praise us. We all like it when people see us or say nice things about us. But remember this. If you have anything good inside you, it comes from God. There is nothing good about *us* on our own. I'm not saying you should feel bad because someone gave you a compliment. Instead, feel happy that your Father in heaven has been given glory. Feel happy that people have praised Him.

You have stewardship of everything. You have stewardship of your money. You have stewardship of your wife. You have stewardship of your children.

You have stewardship of the work that is committed to you. The ministry that you are under. When it is preaching, you become a steward of these mysteries. Your life is not without accountability.

When we choose people to represent us in church government, we have every right to expect them to truly speak for us and our needs. If you cast your vote, you are counting on those representatives to be honest and responsible. They can serve as deacons, trustees, elders, Youth and children ministry. They can't just claim to be the leaders without taking on the great duty that comes with that power. Being elected is a serious job; it means you are entrusted with the well-being of the people. This powerful position requires careful leadership and real accountability to the citizens who put you there. Remember, this sense of duty is all about how you serve the community here on Earth; it has nothing to do with personal spiritual rewards.

Many times, we lose sight. "Well, I am an elect and I am chosen. I know I believe the message." We believe that is good enough for us. But that is not good enough for a true son. A real son wants to be adopted by his father. He tries very hard to make his father happy. It's not just about saying, "Great, I was saved, and now I am! I know God chose me, so that's all." Instead, he works hard to make his father happy. What I really want to do is what my father wants me to do. I want to make him happy.

That places us accountable for things that he blesses us with.

He blesses us with a wife. **He that findeth a good wife, findeth a good thing.** If you do not appreciate what God gave you, if you are looking at another man's wife, you are a sin of coveting your neighbour's wife. You say, "well, I just admired. I want my wife to be your wife." Maybe next thing you will want her DNA to be her DNA. Her fingerprint to be her fingerprint. Then the next thing you know, you find fault with God. Because He did not make all the mountains the same size. He did not make all the flowers the same colour. You see who you find fault with.

Growth has some demands from the atmosphere, sun, moon, stars, and rain. Even if the atmosphere, rain and sun is sufficient, if that seed is not a good seed, it is not going to grow. If there is no life in it, it is not going to grow. But if you have two seeds, you place them in the same condition, that does not mean they will grow at the same rate. It does not mean they will grow at the same rate. You cannot find the exact same atmosphere in one Christian message house equal exactly in some other message house.

Each seed grows at a different rate under the grace of God. It is a lack of wisdom to measure your family or spouse against another "message house".

True wisdom is being contented in your state and allowing God to work through long-suffering and mercy.

Some people under certain house accelerate in certain areas, but they are slow in other areas. We have got to come down to one basic fact. That each one of us, our growth has a lot to do with the grace of God, how much He is willing to open our hearts and how much He is willing to give you from the ministry.

We must careful of how we find fault. We have got to be careful in how we measure ourselves with each other.

2 CORINTHIANS 10:12 ASV For we are not bold to number or compare ourselves with certain of them that commend themselves: but they themselves, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves with themselves, are without understanding.

If you are measuring yourself, your family, your children, your wife, your husband, by another message family, you are not wise. If you measure brother Branham, me, and everybody with exactly the measure of the word, you might find no faults. You might be perfect in every way. A believer might say, "you are perfect, oh my, that guy is really with the word." But you know He is a good Christian, but I tell you what, boy, that guy does not like to shower. The human makeup is like that. You have got to make up your mind that you are going to be contented with what you have.

Paul says in **1 Corinthians 7**. **He that hath a wife, seek not to be divorced.** Paul is saying be it a wife. Later, he tells them, he said, but if you cannot do without woman, go get a woman. But do not touch another man's wife. He said, let every man touch his own wife.

Embrace the powerful truth of contentment! It is the fertile ground where love truly flourishes. When you choose to be content, you create space for grace to move in your spouse, and in yourself. Imagine the freedom of releasing the need to control, allowing God's perfect plan to unfold in their life, with you as their faithful intercessor. Contentment is not passive; it is an active choice to forgive, to be long-suffering, and to be merciful.

This is the divine exchange: the grace you extend is the very grace you need. Every time you choose contentment, you build a fortress against the enemies of marriage: the arguments, the grumbling, the destructive criticisms, and the soul-crushing nag.

Let us rise above comparison, spite, and evil speaking. Let our hearts overflow with a hopeful, enduring, and merciful love. Choose contentment today, for it is the pathway to peace, the key to joy, and the foundational strength for a marriage that reflects the unwavering faithfulness of God. Are you ready to be happy, or do you just have grumpy feelings? One day you feel good, but the next day you don't. You need to decide in your heart that when hard times come, you will choose to be happy with what God has given you. You chose this person this woman or this man to be your partner. Even if they have flaws, those are God's problem, not yours. We are not the boss of changing anyone, not even your wife or your husband. Focus on your own heart and choose happiness every day!

God expects the wife to be in subjection to her husband as unto the Lord. She is going to glorify God if she is obedient even. The more you are obedient toward a selfish, self-centred, power, authority-controlling kind of man, the more glory you bring to God. I am not trying to depress you now, sister. But the more difficult the man to live with, the greater the glory for God and for you. The greater the battle, the greater the victory.

Every marriage is like a garden that needs time to grow. Things won't always be perfect, and that's okay! Think of those tricky times as chances to show real love. When someone makes a mistake, maybe he went back to his habits it gives you a chance to forgive. God lets these moments happen so you can learn to be kind and merciful, just like Christ. If you never had to forgive, or never went through tough times together, you wouldn't have a truly deep relationship. These difficult moments are opportunities. They show you where your partner (or you!) is weak, so you can step up and show them what real, Christ-like love looks like. It's a chance to be amazing to each other, especially when it's hardest. That's how your marriage gets stronger and more beautiful.

Consequently, when one begins to focus on the negative aspects rather than the God's will, a man may, at times, allow a woman to dominate the conversation and exert control without objection. He finds this acceptable and has no issue with it. It is his believing friend who perceives a problem.

"How can you permit her to speak in such a manner? Surely, there is something amiss with that." Yet, the man himself is perfectly content with the situation.

Sometimes the man is so power-controlling hungry. If the wife is a weaker vessel, and I have defined that word weaker. You cannot have a son and daughter of God that you say both have Zoe and something is less than the other. It must be therefore in the role, gender and body that God placed her in. You cannot have Zoe, one bigger than the other. My Zoe is not stronger than your Zoe. It has nothing to do with that. It is the role that God puts her in, the gender he puts her in, to play.

EPHESIANS 5:25-31 YLT The husbands! love your own wives, as also the Christ did love the assembly, and did give himself for it, 26 that he might sanctify it, having cleansed it with the bathing of the water in the saying, 27 that he might present it to himself the assembly in glory, not having spot or wrinkle, or any of such things, but that it may be holy and unblemished; 28 so ought the husbands to love their own wives as their own bodies: he who is loving his own wife—himself he doth love; 29 for no one ever his own flesh did hate, but doth nourish and cherish it, as also the Lord—the assembly, 30 because members we are of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones; 31 'for this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined to his wife, and they shall be the two for one flesh;

If you say that you are a man, this is a woman. Then it is expected of you to serve her as Christ served the church. That is the way. That is the foundational building block of the church. He gave himself for her. He blessed her with gifts and riches and promises and incentives. He gave her incentives.

Every time she be obedient, she be faithful, he gave her incentives and blessings and gifts. We just think it ought to be a duty. We ought to be wise and give our loved one compliments.

We ought to react when they perform in a way that pleases us. Now if God, through Christ, gave gifts and blessings. Encourage an atmosphere of, you know, an atmosphere of blessings and encouragement. We are to do that with one another. The Lord's supper is serving one another. It tells me that Christ is saying, you call me Lord. Just like Sarah called Abraham Lord, If I then being your Lord can wash your feet, then you ought to serve one another and do this an example for me.

That is the order of the husband. Our feet carry an odour due to body heat and perspiration. Perspiration and sweat are a result of sin. The word said, by the sweat of your brows. It's symbolic of halts and failures. Yet we are commanded to do so. Washing feet means that you will overlook their faults. You only serve them when they are clean but serve them when they are unclean. Serve them when they are, when they are not right and you minister to them in feet washing. We all are in the world, and we all get messed up sometimes, and we all pick up spirits, and we all get frazzled in our spirits. Foot washing is like a picture of how we should live all the time. It is not just a thing we do one time. It shows that we serve and help each other every day. We help keep each other clean, not with water on our feet, but by being kind and helpful. We ought to cover their faults do not expose them, even has Christ loved us. That is why you should not be angry or have any problems with each other. You should always be friends and treat each other well. If someone is acting strangely toward you, you should pause and reflect.

Next, you should pray about the situation. After that, you should approach the person and ask, "I apologize, did I possibly do something wrong?" You can explain, "I am not suggesting you did anything wrong, but I sensed something was wrong and thought I might have said or done something to cause it." If the person is untruthful, that is a matter for them and God. However, by asking, you are showing them kindness and helping to maintain a respectful relationship. It is important to have a clear heart when we come to God's house to worship. The Bible teaches us that before we offer our gifts, our offerings, or our loud praises to the Lord, we must make sure everything is okay between us and our brothers or sisters.

Jesus Himself said,

MATTHEW 5:23-24, ESV "So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift".

This is about living in peace and love, even when things get tough.

Sometimes we face "difficult subjects" like jealousy, envy, or competition, which can cause "strife." But the Bible gives us the best way to deal with this: we must be brave and talk to the person! If you "have got an ought" meaning you have a complaint or something to forgive or you think someone is upset with you, you need to go to them.

This is showing them love and care, because you value the relationship more than being right. The Bible also tells us that Jesus gave His life for us, and we should follow His example in our relationships, especially in our families.

EPHESIANS 5:25-26, ESV "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her".

Just like Christ made sure the Church was pure, we must dedicate our lives to making sure there is no barrier, nothing standing between us and those we love. We want only the "blood" of Jesus, which brings amazing things like forgiveness, mercy, and cleansing! Living with a pure heart and loving others is the best offering we can give to God.

Sometimes a wife does things, like having a habit or a way of doing things. The husband should talk to her about it. He should pray with her and for her. The important thing to remember is that the husband cannot *make* his wife stop a bad habit or change her way. The Bible never says he must make her change. God only asks the husband to talk to his wife and pray for her. That's all God expects. God doesn't blame the husband if his wife has certain problems.

Talking openly, or having good communication, is super important in a marriage and a family. It means that people share their thoughts, feelings, and problems honestly.

1. **It Helps People Understand Each Other:** When you talk openly, you learn how your spouse or family members feel and why they do what they do. This helps everyone get along better because they understand each other's point of view.
2. **It Solves Problems:** When there is a problem, talking about it is the first step to fixing it. If you keep a problem secret, it can grow bigger. Open communication helps a family work together to find solutions.
3. **It Builds Trust:** Sharing your true feelings and listening carefully to others shows you trust them. Trust makes a marriage and a family stronger and happier.
4. **It Shows Love and Respect:** Taking the time to listen to someone and sharing your own thoughts shows you care about them and respect their feelings.

So, just like the passage says the husband should talk and pray with his wife, talking openly is the best way for a whole family to be strong, loving, and happy.

You are in a good place, even if she is doing something wrong. This is because you do not have to take anything away from her. Your prayer makes a difference for her. Her name has been called out. You might say, "I don't understand that." But that is what Jesus Christ does. He speaks your name every day. He prays for you, even when the devil is saying bad things about you. The devil's accusations are true. Think about whether that puts you in a special group. You look to Christ, and a husband should act like Christ. The husband shows what Christ shows: praying for others, not accusing them. A woman hearing might want to take advantage and abuse the brother's Christian traits, that's when God steps in. Brothers, play the role of the priest and leave the rest to God.

The apostolic mandate in [1 Peter 3:7](#) is for the husband to dwell with his wife *"according to knowledge"*. This requires a deliberate, conscious dedication to knowing the heart of the one you live with. When we refuse to reconcile, we set ourselves up as a "judge" or "punisher". Withholding attention, compliments, or affection as "payback" is hypocrisy and revenge. It effectively closes the windows of heaven, for God will not hear the prayer of one who refuses to show mercy.

Marriage is a wonderful gift, a big chance for all of us. Even if we don't always get it perfectly right, we have a strong desire to make our marriages work well, just as the Lord would want.

Sometimes, in this world or even in our church, it might feel like things aren't fair, especially for women. If someone tries to take advantage of a situation, let them. The important thing is that they are at least hearing God's Word.

You must be willing to be content, finding peace and acceptance in the present moment, and truly allow your husband or your wife to grow under the sovereign grace of God.

This contentment is an act of faith and unconditional love.

It involves a commitment to intercede for them in fervent prayer, lifting their needs, struggles, and potential to the Lord.

It demands a posture of forgiveness, releasing any bitterness or resentment from past hurts or current frustrations.

It requires long-suffering, which is patient endurance, a willingness to weather their imperfections and setbacks without abandoning them.

And fundamentally, it calls for you to be merciful, extending the same compassion and understanding to them that God has extended to you.

This is crucial because you must recognize that there are indeed areas in your own life blind spots, weaknesses, and failings where other people,

most importantly your spouse, must be equally gracious, forgiving, and merciful toward you. You need their patience, just as they need yours. You must be genuinely willing to embrace this contentment, this quiet trust in God's work in their life and yours

If you are not happy with what you have, your relationship will get worse. It will lead to:

Fights: Always arguing, yelling about small things, and being in a bad mood instead of feeling calm.

Grumbles: Being very unhappy and always complaining, not saying 'thank you' for things.

Finding Mistakes: Looking for and pointing out every little thing your husband or wife does wrong.

Saying Mean Things: Speaking harshly and judging your husband or wife, which makes them feel bad and less sure of themselves, instead of saying kind, true things to help them.

Bad Thoughts: A gloomy feeling that stops any happiness, making the relationship feel like a heavy weight instead of a good, helpful thing.

Choosing to be happy with what you have is choosing peace, working together, and giving God space to change both of you. Choosing the opposite is choosing a path of fighting and slowly breaking the relationship.

The difficulties in marriage should not be used like weapons against each other.

Husbands and pastors are not supposed to be in a contest.

I, as a pastor, should not compete with your husband. If you try to compare us, you're actually putting your husband against me, and that gives the devil a chance to put bad thoughts in his head.

Remember, your husband is the one who is meant to be the authority in your home, under God.

When you honour that, you are building a strong foundation.

It's okay if other church leaders, like deacons or evangelists, are not everyone's favorite. They don't have to live with you all the time, like your pastor might feel he does.

I always say a truly good deacon is one who can accept blame when things go wrong. That takes real strength!

A good wife is also one who can take blame.

A good woman is one who can take blame for her husband.

You must protect and stand up for each other.

A Husband and wife have their own strengths, but it is so important to stand together for each other.

When you know you have someone who always has your back, it makes you feel wonderful and strong

Let's all work to have that strong, loving marriage!
It is like a woman and her children. She is like a mama bear. You better do not come near her children. Her cubs. She will tear you to pieces.

It ought to be so, when you come to talk about a woman's husband to her, you better be afraid and trembling.

Sister you are the deacons and armour bearer protecting your husband. If a man comes to my pulpit, and he just wants to scold you for no good reason, it means his problems are from a different church or another situation.
He is only coming here to cause trouble.

Sometimes people have issues at work and they come home and take that anger out on the husband or wife or children.
Cultivating a deep level of understanding and practicing open communication are vital components for a healthy and enduring marriage partnership.

When you consciously engage in this practice, you naturally foster a significantly healthier relationship dynamic.
This enhanced well-being stems directly from the fact that you become acutely *conscious* of your partner's internal landscape.

You are not merely reacting to their external behaviour, but you are actively paying attention to:

Their Thought Processes:

You make an effort to understand *what* they are thinking, the rationale behind their perspectives, and the beliefs that shape their decisions.

This involves listening not just to their words, but seeking to grasp the underlying meaning and intent.

Their Emotional State:

You become attuned to *how* they are feeling their joys, stresses, anxieties, and frustrations.

This emotional intelligence allows you to respond with empathy and validation, rather than judgment or defensiveness.

Their Actions and Reactions:

You gain insight into *how they are acting* in various situations, understanding that their behaviors are often a direct manifestation of their thoughts and emotions.

When you comprehend the root cause of an action, whether positive or negative, you can address it constructively and collaboratively.

By maintaining this conscious awareness and pairing it with a commitment to open communication meaning honest, respectful, and non-confrontational dialogue you eliminate the guesswork and assumptions that often poison relationships.

This transparency builds a powerful foundation of trust, reduces misinterpretations, and allows both partners to feel truly seen and understood.

The result is a partnership characterized by resilience, deeper intimacy, and a much greater capacity to navigate life's inevitable challenges together. It is possible to reach a state where a husband and wife can harbor negative attitudes toward each other for extended periods, remaining unconcerned.

This is why the Bible states, "**Do not let the sun go down on your wrath,**" as this behaviour can become habitual.

One learns to tolerate this, which is a form of stubbornness and wilful ignorance.

Reconciliation is necessary to maintain fellowship and the blessings of God.

Scripture says If you have a grievance against your brother, or you believe a brother has a grievance against you, leave your gift at the altar and go set the matter right. You know this is correct.

1 PETER 3:7 The husbands, in like manner, dwelling with them, according to knowledge, as to a weaker vessel to the wife imparting honour, as also being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers be not hindered.

When a husband and wife do not live together right, the Bible says their prayers can be hindered.

It is important to fix things so that prayers are not hindered.

You should not act like a judge or a punisher in your relationship.

You should not decide how long someone needs to be punished emotionally when they do something wrong.

Sometimes people punish others by doing things like cooking food the other person dislikes or not washing clothes.

This is called emotional punishment.

The Lord says that vengeance belongs to Him.

We should try to give good back instead of evil. But in marriage, people often want to pay back their spouse or take revenge.

They want to punish their spouse emotionally or psychologically.

The Bible tells us that if you come to take Lord's supper, you must first go and make peace with your brother or sister, or your husband or wife, before the sun goes down.

Sometimes we are too proud to make the first move. We do not want the other person to think they won.

But if you are the one who goes to your spouse to make peace, you are the winner. It shows you want to obey God and have fellowship.

We must remember the grace of God in our lives.

We do not want Him to punish us.

We must choose not to punish others emotionally, psychologically, or physically.

A husband might feel upset when his wife does not do something he expected.

He stays calm for a whole month, but inside, he is holding back his true feelings.

He is using this quietness in a clever, maybe even a cruel, way.

He stops giving her money, thinking he is in charge because he said he is the head of the house.

This behaviour is truly like seeking revenge or vengeance.

He does not talk about it, trying to act like a good person, a Christian, by just staying silent. But this quiet withholding is actually a hidden sin.

Then, at the church, which follows its usual ways, he might even praise his wife. "That is my wife," he says, "God bless the wife."

But deep down, he is being fake. This is like wearing a mask, which is called hypocrisy. Imagine taking the Lord's supper, a very serious church act, knowing what it means, and then behaving like this.

What he is doing is pure revenge and payback.

She did not do things his way, so he is making her pay.

He feels she must suffer for it.

He is taking away his good behaviour, his approval, his nice words, his attention everything until she gives in.

This is not true love or partnership; it is a serious, sad way to live.

We should choose to live with open hearts and honest, kind communication instead of secret punishment.

Imagine a big, beautiful gift that God wants to give you His blessings!

He says that he will not hear your prayer. He will not bless you."

If a husband and wife aren't showing each other love and respect, it's like putting up a wall between them and God's goodness.

When we are selfish and say, "I am going to punish him here.

I am not going to give it to him.

He does not deserve it," we forget that God's love is much bigger than what we *deserve*.

God reminds us, **"He must play a role and you have to play one out, too."**

This means that living a blessed life isn't just about what we get; it's about what we *do* and how we treat others.

When we do our part loving, respecting, and forgiving the wall comes down, and the blessings can flow!

Let's look at what the Bible says about prayer and living right:

A good lesson for everyone, especially in families:

1 PETER 3:7 Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that **nothing will hinder your prayers**. Not having respect *stops* our prayers from being heard!

What happens when we keep sin in our hearts:

PSALM 66:18 "If I had cherished sin in my heart, **the Lord would not have listened.**"

We need to ask God to help us have clean hearts.

Why some prayers don't work

JAMES 4:3 "When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures."

We need to pray for things that please God, not just ourselves.

"When you're right with God, God hears your prayer."

Brother Branham taught that being in the right relationship with God is the key to getting your prayers answered.

Inspiration:

Don't let anything block your connection with God! If you feel like your prayers are "not being heard," look into your heart and your actions.

Ask yourself: Am I being kind? Am I forgiving? Am I respectful?

When you choose to love and do what is right, you open the door to all the wonderful blessings God has waiting for you!

Divine Reflection: Living According to Knowledge in Marriage

Our earthly roles as husbands and wives are divinely appointed vehicles intended to reflect God's glory. When marred by conflict, it creates a spiritual barrier that hinders prayers and blocks divine blessings.

THE FOUNDATION OF DIVINE ROLES



Reflecting the Image of God

We are called to reflect God's nature so others may see Him through us.



Divinely Bestowed Positions

Roles like husband and wife are purposeful designs, not accidental occurrences.



Living According to Knowledge

Mandates husbands treat wives with honor to prevent hindered prayers.

OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO BLESSING



Prioritize Open Communication

Honest dialogue builds trust and solves problems before they grow into "hidden sins."

The Danger of Emotional Punishment

Withholding affection or attention as "payback" acts as a wall against God's goodness.



Choosing Contentment Over Comparison

True peace comes from accepting your spouse's unique growth rate under God's grace.

SPIRITUAL CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE BEHAVIORS

Emotional Punishment

"Hindered Prayers" and blocked divine blessings

Constant Comparison

"Lack of Wisdom" and increased marital strife

Hidden Grudges

"Habitual Wrath" that breaks fellowship with God