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# *The Pursuit of Holiness*

## *Love with Intent*

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*New Hope Community Church  
Dr. Jack Bracy, April 15, 2018*

What Does God Demand of a Believing Husband?

### **Unpacking the Text**

“Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.” **1 Peter 3:7, ESV** (see also *Colossians 3:19; Ephesians 5:25*)

God Will Not Bless My Life If I Am Not Blessing My Wife

### **Am I A Just A Man or God’s Man?**

My Eternity and My Marriage Rests on My Decision

#### **1. As God’s Man, Jesus Is My Authority**

“But there is one thing I want you to know: The head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.” **1 Corinthians 11:3, NLT**

God’s Man Longs to Be Under Jesus Authority

#### **2. As God’s Man, I Am Willing to Give My Life Away for My Wife and Family**

“For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her” *Ephesians 5:25, NLT*

### Death to the Old Self

*Marriage Is A Call to Die, And A Man Who Does Not Die for His Wife Does Not Come Close to The Love to Which He Is Called – K. Hughes*

Jesus Has Already Done the Hard Part by Dying for Me So That I Might Have A Different Kind of Heart and To Be Empowered by The Spirit

### She Before Me

3. As God’s Man, I Study the Word to Protect My Family According to The Word

“to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God’s word. He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault.” *Ephesians 5:26–27, NLT*

Most Men Feel Like a Failure When It Comes to Spiritual Things

Being a Godly Man Is Not About What I Feel About God,  
It’s About What I Do by The Spirit of God

4. Every Godly Man Has A Start Date  
This Is the Day I Choose to Start Living for Jesus

## **Godly Relationships Are Characterized by Godly Compromise**

1. Step Up for Jesus

2. Go the Extra Mile
3. Let Go of Destructive Desires

Compromise Is About Balancing Your Personal Needs  
with What's Best for Everyone

### Questions to ask Each other

#### **Husband Asks Wife:**

1. Do you feel like I love you? What do I do that makes you feel loved? What do I do that makes you feel unloved?
2. Do you feel like I take care of you as well as I take care of myself?
3. Other than my Relationship with Jesus, do you feel like you have first place in my life?

#### **Wife Asks Husband:**

1. What do I do that makes it easy to love me? What do I do that makes it hard to love me?
2. Do we have anything in our home that should be removed, because it is threatening our holiness?
3. What fruit of the Spirit or works of the flesh do you see in me that characterize my life?