



## The Five Needs of a Wife

### Announcements

**201 Dream Team Orientation** – Sunday, April 14, 2013 at 5:00 pm. Get connected and find your place to serve on the Dream Team.

### Warm-up

*If you are married:* Share the story of how your proposal went. Then decide who had the most creative proposal.

*If you are single:* What married couple do you know has the best marriage? Why do you think their marriage is so strong?

As a way to equip people to have strong marriages we are going to be discussing five needs of a wife.

### Word & Application

Everyone enters marriage with the thought they will live “*happily ever after.*” God wants us to enjoy thriving marriage relationships, but it is important to understand it takes work.

**Read 1 Peter 3:7.** God is calling husbands to understand and honor their wife.

What do you think it means for a husband to “understand and honor” his wife? What are some practical ways to obey this command from God?

**Read Genesis 2:23-24.** What do these verses tell us about the union between a man and his wife?

God has a special design and purpose for marriage. It is more than a commitment two people make to each other. It is a covenant relationship, in which God brings two people into a supernatural union.

**Read Ephesians 5:25.** The scripture compares a husband’s love for his wife with Christ’s sacrificial love for the Church. What do you think it means for a husband to love his wife as Christ loved the Church?

It takes work, an open heart and an understanding mind for a husband to be able to love his wife as instructed in Ephesians 5:25.

We are going to look at five needs of a wife that will help husbands express love to their wives.

#### 1) Listen to me

Why do you think listening is so important in a marriage relationship?

When a husband takes the time and energy to listen to his wife, it shows he values her and cares for her. This may not always be an easy act for husbands, but this is part of the sacrificial love husbands are called to show.

*Men:* Why is giving time and energy to listen to your wife challenging?

*Ladies:* Why is it important for your husband to listen to you without trying to “fix” you or your problems?

## **2) Romance me**

A woman wants to feel special and know she is a priority to her husband.

*Ladies:* What does it mean to you to be romanced by your husband?

*Men:* What can you do to continue to date your wife?

## **3) Show me compassion**

A wife wants to feel cared for and valued through her husband’s actions and words. Husbands are called to care for and protect their wives. When this happens a wife will feel secure.

*Ladies:* What makes you feel protected and secure?

*Men:* What challenges do you face being compassionate towards your wife after working all day? What can you do to overcome these challenges?

## **4) Be affectionate**

A wife wants to be shown affection through words and actions, without a motive for sex attached to it.

There was a Christian book written entitled *Sex Begins in the Kitchen*. The premise of this book is that sexual affection is a result of the care a couple shares with each other in all areas of life.

*Ladies:* What does the phrase “*Sex begins in the kitchen*” mean to you?

*Men:* What is challenging about being affectionate with your wife?

## **5) Be committed to God and our family**

*Ladies:* Why is your husband’s commitment to God and your family so important?

*Men:* What can you do to improve in your commitment to God and your family?

Men, the best way to lead your wife and meet her needs is to:

- Walk with God.
- Walk with godly men.
- Pray for your wife.
- Live for purity.

## **Prayer**

Pray for everyone in the group to have a thriving marriage and to grow closer to God and their family during this series. Also, take time to ask for specific prayer requests from those in your small group.