



# THE SEVIERVILLE SOWER

*Sowing the seed (Luke 8:11) into the hearts of mankind.*

Sevierville Church of Christ | 208 Hicks Drive | Sevierville, TN 37862 | (865) 453-8009 | [seviervillecoc.org](http://seviervillecoc.org)

April 24, 2022

## A Wife's Role and Responsibilities

Joel Danley

By our human way of thinking, things that are lower on a list are usually considered to be of lesser value. And while we might often list items in order of importance, not every list is always from the greatest to the least. For instance, God gave us His divine order for headship: God, Christ, man, woman (1 Corinthians 11:3). However, this does not mean that women have no value.

Just as God is clear about this order for headship, He is also very clear about this: for a man to have a wife is a wonderful thing. The writer of Proverbs would say, *"He who finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor from the Lord"* (Proverbs 18:22). And again, *"Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies"* (Proverbs 31:10).

The order that God gives us in 1 Corinthians 11:3 simply reminds us that we all have a role. It is appointed by God and it is important. Thus it would be beneficial for us to consider what God has told us about the role and responsibilities of wives.

By inspiration of the Holy Spirit, both Paul and Peter use similar words to assert that wives are to be in **submission** or **subjection** to their husbands. Paul very plainly wrote to those in Ephesus, *"Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord"* (Ephesians 5:22). And to the Christians in Colossae he would say, *"Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord"* (Colossians 3:18). The apostle Peter would write, *"Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands . . ."* (1 Peter 3:1).

We sometimes run into a problem with this idea. Not because God and His word are wrong, but because this does not match what many people in the world today would have you believe is right and proper. Many believe that to submit to someone is degrading and should be discouraged. We can quickly note three reasons submission is beneficial.

First, God in His infinite wisdom knew that this was the best way for marriages to succeed. It is almost impossible for an entity to have two heads and be successful. Someone must take the lead. The wife should be her husband's biggest supporter, his greatest helper, and best partner. This does not imply a demotion or oppression.

Secondly, when wives submit to their husbands, they are also able to imitate Christ. Just as Jesus submitted His will to the Father (Matthew 26:39,42), wives also show how they voluntarily follow the leadership of their husbands.

In the third place, for the wife, submission is a part of her service

to Christ. Paul gives the measurement by which she can be sure she is meeting the standard when he says she should submit *"as to the Lord"* (Ephesians 5:22). There is not a time frame or a limit to how far her submission should reach. If she is going to serve Christ and follow Him with all of her being, then that is how she should submit to her husband.

A wife might inquire if this submission is only in spiritual matters or financial or physical. And Paul would give the exact parameters she should follow when he says: *"in everything"* (Ephesians 5:24). This is not to say that the husband should be domineering or hold sway over every minute detail of her life. But the wife should not pick and choose certain areas that she prefers to be submissive and others that she does not.

There are a few other responsibilities not directly related to submitting that we can note at this juncture. There are some other Bible passages that touch briefly on some attitudes that wives should strive to have. Wives are to **respect** their husbands (Ephesians 5:33). This does not come from a place of fear, but is shown through her words and actions, in public and in private.

Wives, as they age and mature, are able to **teach** younger women how to do many things, including how to *"love their husbands"* and to be *"obedient to their own husbands"* (Titus 2:4, 5). Paul would even remind them that these things ought to be done so that *"the word of God may not be blasphemed"* (Titus 2:5). Or, in other words, that the word of God may not be spoken against.

Wives are to **love** their husbands and children (Titus 2:4). It is not required that a woman have children; she may remain a wife only and not become a mother. However, there is still an opportunity to show love. This is not just the emotional love that we feel between men and women in our earthly relationships. But it is the biblical love that we see manifested in God, which includes emotion, but also discipline and self-sacrifice.

All of these things are a natural result when the husband and the wife are **united** in one flesh. This was always God's desire and instruction from the first marriage between Adam and Eve (Genesis 2:24).

The husband has a role and important responsibilities. The wife has a role and important responsibilities. Both are of importance and value, for God designed marriage to work this way in beautiful unity. May both partners strive to understand their part in marriage and to always follow His divine will *"till death do us part."*

## Prayer Requests & Announcements

Please pray for our brother John Carr who will soon begin radiation treatment for his thyroid cancer.

Linda Shidell fell last Sunday and is recovering from a sprained ankle and a knot on her head.

Linda Shidell's friend, Arlene Sweet, was recently diagnosed with breast cancer. She will be starting chemo in a week which will be followed by radiation treatment.

Dawn Sutton is doing well in her recovery from cancer surgery. All the removed lymph nodes tested negative for cancer.

Sue Roberts reported that her husband, Bobby, is in Smoky Mountain Rehab. He is weak and fell twice recently and broke a bone in his leg. Also, Sue is suffering with a pinched nerve in her back.

Remember in prayer Lenwood Johnson's sister, Becky Day, who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer.

Please pray for Chris Bender who had a biopsy recently and saw a surgeon to have tumors removed. Pre-cancerous growth was found and treatment will be needed.

Continue to pray for the Christians in Ukraine.

### Continue to Remember...

Chris Bender, John and Helen Carr, Connie Duncan, Dennis and Marty Danilchuk, Lindsey Johnson, Shirley McKnight, Sue Moore, Lyn Morris and her brother Joe Cochran, Paul and Ellen Ostrander, Joanne Roark, Shirley Yeager, Natasha Costello, Penny Douglas (John and Helen Carr's niece), Becky Duncan (Joe and Connie's daughter-in-law), Belinda Lang (Kevin's aunt), Adam Lane (son-in-law of Vickie Price), Harlie McClung (John and Helen Carr's 12 year-old granddaughter), Anita Ogle (Sherry Simms' friend), Casie Rains (friend of the Hansens), Paul Rolen (Mary Kate's brother), Betty & Frankie Simms (Scott Simms' parents), Wayne Tart (Tammie Fish's brother).

**Ladies' class Thursdays at 6:15 at the Hansen's house**

**Monthly afternoon song service: Today**

**Fellowship lunch: May 1**

**Fellowship night: May 20, 6:30**

## Evangelism Materials

Extra supplies for our evangelism work are freely available in the supply room to our members. Instructional books, DVDs, and Bible study materials are available. We also have a variety of cards for our Compassion Card work.

## Weekly Assemblies

**Sunday:** Bible Study ..... 9 a.m.  
Worship ..... 10 a.m.  
Worship ..... 1 p.m.  
**Wednesday:** Bible Class ..... 7 p.m.

## Imitating Jesus' Use of Scriptures

Chad Dollahite

Jesus is the perfect example for all humanity. All humans would do well to follow Jesus' example in behavior (1 Peter 2:21-23) and attitude (Philippians 2:5). No one should seek to imitate Jesus more than His followers. One of the specific ways Christians should imitate Jesus is the way He used Scripture.

**Jesus used Scripture to point men to the Christ.** Since He is the Christ, Jesus used the Scriptures to point men to Himself. In John 5:39, Jesus says, "*You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.*" In John 5 alone, Jesus cited testimony from no less than four witnesses—including Old Testament Scripture—to prove He was the prophesied Messiah. When pointing others to Jesus and showing He is the Savior, His example in using Scripture to do so is worthy of imitation. "*For he [Apollos, ccd] vigorously refuted the Jews publicly, showing from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ*" (Acts 18:28).

**Jesus used Scripture to resist temptation.** Jesus was tempted as a human, and He resisted each time without sinning (Hebrews 4:15). Matthew 4:1-11 records what is often referred to as "the temptation of Jesus." Although it was not the only occasion Jesus faced temptation, it surely was one of the most severe. Jesus met each temptation with, "*It is written . . .*" (Matthew 4:4,7,10). When tempted, God's people need to imitate Jesus' use of Scripture to resist such. "*Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You*" (Psalm 119:11).

**Jesus used Scripture to answer spiritual questions.** Three examples are considered here. Jesus used Scripture to answer questions related to salvation. When a Jewish man asked Jesus how to have eternal life (Luke 10:25), Jesus answered with Scripture—"*What is written in the law?*" (Luke 10:26). Jesus also used Scripture to answer a question about God's marriage law (Matthew 19:1-9). Jesus later used Scripture to answer a question of whether there is life after death (Luke 20:27-38), using Exodus 3:6 to show there will indeed be a resurrection of the dead and life after death. When dealing with questions of a spiritual nature, we should imitate Jesus' example and use Scripture to answer them. "*From childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation . . .*" (2 Timothy 3:15).

As we seek to point others to Jesus, to resist temptation, and to answer spiritual questions correctly, let us follow Jesus' example in using Scripture to do so. There truly is no better example.

### Elders

Randy Hansen, Robert Moore, Kevin Ruiz, and Jerry Sutton

### Deacon

Lenwood Johnson (finance)

### Preacher

Kevin Ruiz