



Last week discussed understanding. Listen rather than fix. Live with wife in an understanding way 1PET 3:7. spoke about them as weaker vessel, show them honor as fellow heir in Christ  
Jam 1:19 – be quick to listen and slow to speak  
Understanding takes time

- Beloved Unbeliever by Jo Berry
  - he had a lot of ability and insight she was ignoring, to her loss
  - he wanted the same kind of respect at home that he received at work

This wife is not unique. She thinks her husband has little to teach her, she runs house, kids, makes all the home decisions. They have arrogance problems and don't let their husbands share his opinions which shuts him out and down.

## WOMAN'S INTUITION?

*PROV 3:7 - Do not be wise in your own eyes;...*

- Women do have intuition but sometimes it is given too much credit at the expense of the husbands insight
- Blind spots in her intuition can be compensated by his ability to analyze a situation

Women have insights but also have blind spots that can be filled by husband

Last week spoke about “knowing” your wife and the “weaker vessel”. Part of knowing your wife is seeing where your strengths can fill in for her weaknesses and it is the wife’s job to allow those weaknesses to be filled.

## EVE WAS DECEIVED-NOT ADAM

*1TIM 2:14 - And it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression*

- Adam's sin was not that Eve deceived him but that he **disobeyed**
  - Adam had lived without Eve in the Garden and did not eat of fruit until she came along

Adam had the insight to not eat of the tree but then ultimately did. Was Eve leading Adam around or did he not want Eve to get ahead of him by having more knowledge? No one knows but Paul makes clear the woman's role in the church with this verse.

- One could say that Eve concluded she knew what was best for her and her husband and led him astray
- She did not listen to his voice and insight and got Adam to listen to her, even though he knew better

This is a biblical example of today's woman who thinks she knows better when her husband has been quietly following his own insight to the benefit of both. It does make us think of the day to day to interaction between the first human relationship.

## MARRIAGE NEEDS HER INTUITION AND HIS INSIGHT

- *Husbands and wives need each other*
  - Women are intuitive and husbands should listen to them
  - Wives should not fail to appreciate the insight God has given their husbands and reject their counsel

We need biblical balance and that includes the husbands need to practice understanding toward his wife and the wife's need to recognize the husbands intuitive insight and counsel

## HUSBANDS AND WIVES NEED EACH OTHER

1. Do you think too highly of your natural discernment and intuition?
2. Is it possible that you might be deceived on certain fronts and that you could use your husbands insight because you don't see what he sees?

If you are willing to evaluate where you are on the scale of showing unconditional respect for your husband these are 2 questions that you need to answer

## SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

- A contemptuous, critical spirit is not the way to win over your “disobedient” husband
- Remember 1PET 3:1-2

*In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior*

All of us can be deceived but women need to be aware of where the serpent might be subtly deceiving them today.

One area that many women struggle with is the role of their husbands in spiritual leadership

You need to win him with respectful behavior, not continued harping, nagging, vocal criticism

## NOT HAPPY WITH YOUR HUSBAND'S LEADERSHIP?

- Did my husband ever seek to lead in our marriage, but I differed because I felt it was stupid?

Wanting your husband to lead spiritually is an appropriate conviction but judging him with contempt hurt's God's heart. Your convictions can please him but your contempt will grieve him.

The following slides are questions that you need to ask yourself if you are not happy with your husband's leadership

## NOT HAPPY WITH YOUR HUSBAND'S LEADERSHIP?

- Do I send him a message that I do not intend to follow him if he makes a decision contrary to what I believe is correct?

Be aware of subtle messages either verbally or in body language

## NOT HAPPY WITH YOUR HUSBAND'S LEADERSHIP?

- Do I send a message that says, "I want you to lead but only when it bolsters and carries out my desires"?

Watch out for selfish attitudes rather than a deferential one

## NOT HAPPY WITH YOUR HUSBAND'S LEADERSHIP?

- Do I want my husband to be responsible, but if he is irresponsible in my opinion, am I exercising veto power?

Remember that your job is to unconditionally respect him

## NOT HAPPY WITH YOUR HUSBAND'S LEADERSHIP?

- Do my words and actions communicate, “You are responsible but I have the authority”?

Be sure you maintain the biblical hierarchy we have discussed before.

## ARE YOU YOUR HUSBAND'S HOLY SPIRIT?

- Self-righteousness gets in way of what your husband sees as important and may have better insight to.
- Don't get caught up with house, and kids and slip into a subtle judgmental spirit
- LUKE 10:38-42 - Don't be Martha!

All the aforementioned questions have a thread of self righteousness running through them. Be aware of that attitude as you yield to your husband's desire to analyze and counsel

Be conscious of a judgmental spirit

Martha was so caught up in herself she lost sight of who she was speaking to. I know your husbands are not Christ but it is the attitude I want you to be aware of.

- Self-righteousness can deceive you and blind you to your husband's ability to analyze and have insight where you may not
- Your appreciation for his insight is showing him the **respect** that he desires

## YOUR HUSBAND WILL FEEL YOU APPRECIATE HIS INSIGHT WHEN YOU...

- tell him up front you just need his ear; don't complain later that he always tries to "fix" you
- recognize his problem-solving approach as his male brand of empathy
- sometimes let him "fix things" and applaud his solutions
- admit that you can sin and thank him for his perception and godly counsel