

Two gold hearts are positioned in the upper right corner of the page. One heart is in the foreground, slightly out of focus, while the other is behind it, also slightly out of focus. They are set against a light, blurred background.

To Love Their Husbands

by Nikki Ellison

*Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, so that they may encourage the young women **to love their husbands...***

~Titus 2:3-5

Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the Church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. But as the Church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything (Ephesians 5:22-24). The Bible tells us that after our relationship with God, our relationship with our husband should be our highest priority. Our goal as wives should be to glorify and honor God as we love, help, and care for our husbands. A wife's role is to **love her husband**, accept him as God made him, and together establish a home that centers on magnifying our Lord and Savior.

To love their husbands at home

Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant; does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

~1 Corinthians 13: 4-8a

- Focus on what your husband does right and not what he does wrong.
- Think good thoughts of your husband.
- Have confidence in your husband.
- Seek his opinion and advice above all others.
- Be careful of tone and attitude. *On her tongue is the law of kindness* (Proverbs 31:26).
- Speak kindly to your husband especially in front of the children.
- Brag on your husband for his accomplishments and deeds. *All wives will honor their husbands, both great and small* (Esther 1:20).
- Demonstrate your affection for him in front of your children. Our children should witness how we prize our husbands. This will serve as a vital role model for them and their future marriages.
- DO NOT TAKE HIM FOR GRANTED.



To love their husbands outside the home

*An excellent wife is the crown of her husband,
but she who shames him is like rottenness in his bones.*

~Proverbs 12:4

...and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

~Ephesians 5:33

- Never criticize your husband in front of friends or family.
- Brag to others about your husband. If you do not do this, who will?
- Be careful that our conduct and speech do not reflect poorly on our husband
- Use respect for your husband as a door for witnessing.

To love their husbands by showing affection

*Let the husband render to his wife the affection owed her,
and likewise also the wife to her husband.*

~1 Corinthians 7:3

- Welcome your husband home with a smile, hug, and kiss. Send him off the same way.
- Put notes in his lunch or suitcase if he goes away for a trip.
- Smile at him in public.
- Take hold of his arm in public.
- Plan special getaways. These can be for a night or weekend.
- Baby him when he is sick.
- Assure your husband of your love for him when you know he is struggling with whatever issue.
- Listen and surprise him with his wishes.

To love their husbands by praying for them

Pray for our husband in specific ways.

*And all things you ask in prayer,
believing, you will receive.*

~Matthew 21:22

Areas of prayerful consideration:

- Your husband's walk with the Lord
- Wisdom in leading his family
- Contentment in his present situation, whether school or job
- Protection from physical harm
- Protection from worldly influences
- Honesty in dealing with others
- Good witness in his workplace
- Good health mentally and physically
- Patience with himself and others
- That our love for our husband would increase

To love their husbands by caring for them

She shall do him good and not evil all the days of her life.

~Proverbs 31:12

- Continual prayer for him
- Cook his favorite meals
- Keep his clothes washed and ironed
- Participate in his hobbies
- Plan activities together
- Rub his feet. Give back massages.
- Like your in-laws
- Be kind to his friends
- Listen to him

To love their husbands by keeping the home a haven

*Every wise woman builds her house,
but the foolish one tears it down with her own hands.*

~Proverbs 14:1

- Heed what you say when your husband comes home
- Do not be a complainer
- Show support for his leadership
- Use Scripture for encouragement
- Come up with ideas to help with family devotions
- Show that you respect him and are truly interested when he talks about his day

To love their husbands by keeping their children under subjection

*A wise son makes a father glad,
but a foolish son is a grief to his mother*

~Proverbs 10:1

- Teach children Biblical respect for father
- Do not contradict your husband in front of the children
- Discipline and do not threaten with the proverbial “Wait until your father gets home”.



To love their husbands in the area of finances

Your husband is the breadwinner. It is his responsibility to meet the needs of the family. His wife can be either a help or a hindrance in this area. Young husbands sometimes may feel the need to compete with in-laws. Remember that God can use finances in your life to bring you closer to one another or Satan will use money to cause problems in your household. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also (Matthew 6:21).

- Decide early on who handles the finances.
- Share in financial decisions.
- Set up a budget. A good rule of thumb is to live within 80 percent of the income, tithe 10 percent, and save 10 percent.
- Use a budget check sheet to show income and disbursements (Envelope system by Larry Burkett)
- Be frugal. Make a “game” of saving money. Clip coupons, comparison shopping, clothing sales, consignment shops, thrift stores, yard sales, bulk shopping from BJ’s or Sams, gardening.
- Teach your children financial responsibility
- Think about your future

To love their husbands by maintaining energy and staying attractive

- Take a nap if necessary while the younger children are resting
- Establish exchange babysitting.
- Prepare well-balanced meals.
- Exercise
- Watch your weight
- Dress attractively for your husband. Welcome his input on what he likes.
- Apply makeup in the way that pleases your husband.

To love their husbands through child bearing years

Stop depriving one another except by agreement for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer and come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

~1 Corinthians 7:15

Marriage is to be held in honor among all and the marriage bed is to be undefiled.

~Hebrews 13:4

Your desire shall be for your husband

~Genesis 3:16

- Let your husband know your feelings.
- If you are always “too tired”, examine your day to determine what you can change. Take a nap during the day when the children are sleeping.
- On special occasions arrange for friends or relatives to baby sit, if possible, for overnight or a weekend.
- Communicate, communicate, communicate!!!

Most important lessons learned in 37 years of marriage:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

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