

MP III Husband Love Your Wife

By Greg Rangel

“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it” (Ephesians 5:25).

The Scriptures teach us about the love of Christ and how He died for our sins. His love is so great that it is able to forgive the greatest of sinners and down to the lowest as well. Everything and any little thing that we have done against God, the blood of Jesus is able to forgive. Have you said a lie? God is able to forgive you. Have you taken something that was not yours? God is able to forgive that too. Have you killed anyone? God is also able to forgive that as well.

One way that the love of Christ is shown towards man is by dying for man on the cross. That is a true and genuine love. Love in the Greek is *Agape*. Agape love causes a man to literally lay down his own life in place for another whom he loves, just like Jesus did. Jesus said in John 15:13, *“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”* We can so easily tell someone we love them when perhaps we really do not.

Many today will “love” someone else as long as that someone else has money, or does not owe us anything, or even as long as they have not insulted us or said mean things behind our back. But what happens when someone says something behind your back, or even insults you? What happened to that “true love” that you had for them?

Many today have gotten so used to the word love that they do not understand its meaning, but at the same time they misuse it. Many will say, “I love you” when in reality they don’t, and at the same time they will say, “I love coke, I love this restaurant.” Well, is the love that they have for the person the same kind of love that they have for the coke or for anything else for that matter? Of course not! But because man misuses the word “love” so much, he begins to misunderstand its true meaning. Many might have “strong” feelings for another and confuse it with love. But a true love for another is shown not through words but through actions. Through His actions, Jesus proved His love for us. Just like we as husbands must prove our love for our wives through actions, and not just through words.

Many husbands believe that they truly love their wife while at the same time are abusing them, insulting them, and even injuring them in many ways. But that is not love. A true love will not injure, insult, or abuse in any way. Has Christ injured us, insulted us, or abused us in any way?

Husbands must love their wives as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it. That also means that husbands must love their wives so much that they must be willing to die for them in the sense that, they must have the desire to trade places if possible if incase their wife was in danger.

Husbands, you must love your wife in the true sense. You must cherish her, adore her, respect her, honor her, exalt her in every way possible. You must see your wife and treat your wife as if she is a precious and fragile jewel.

A second way that a true love is shown is by practicing true forgiveness. Since Jesus forgives us for “everything” we have done, why can’t we forgive our wife (and one another) for whatever she has done? Whatever your wife has done against you does not compare to what you have done against Christ. So if Jesus Christ can forgive you, why would you not be willing to forgive your wife? Husbands, please read 1 Corinthians 13 and see if you can say that about yourself. Wherever you see the word love put your name there.

One grave mistake that husbands usually make is that they try to change their wife. They see everything wrong that their wife does, but they unfortunately do not see their own mistakes. Husbands must realize that they were not called to change their wife but to love them just the way they are. Husbands must focus on their own principle and on changing themselves to please their wife in everything.