

A Gentle and Quiet Spirit

Practical application of Eph 5:22-24

Maturing effect of marriage

“achieving a happy compatibility of incompatibles is part of the maturing effect that marriage is meant to have”

Quoted in Leland Ryken, *J. I. Packer: An Evangelical Life*

Ephesians 5:22-24
Practical Application - Message

Scripture teaches wives how to submit to their husbands in ways that are uniquely Christian

Problems that hinder good communication

Nagging (provoking conflict - Prov 19:13; 21:9)

Disrespect (Eph 5:33; 1 Pet 3:2)

Manipulation (2 Cor 2:11; Eph 4:15, 25)

Talkativeness (Prov 18:2; Prov 10:19; Jas 1:19; Prov 29:20)

Effective Communication

Effective communication “involves people coming to a common meaning so that both sender and receiver are drawn together and mutually enriched and encouraged (Ephesians 4:25, 29)”

Improving quality of communication

Gentleness

Pleasantness

Respect

Love

Kindness

Self-control

(Eph 4:32; 5:33; 1 Pet 3:1-6; Eccl 12:10; Prov 15:1, 18-19; 16:23-24; 25:15; 29:11; 31:26; Gal 5:22-23)



Making progress?

“Pleasant words are a
honeycomb, sweet to the soul
and healing to the bones”
(Prov 16:24)

Respectful Appeal (Dan 1:18)

“A biblical appeal is a request or plea to a person in authority for the purpose of asking them to reconsider or reevaluate a command, directive, or instruction”

Martha Peace, *The Excellent Wife: A Biblical Perspective*, p. 159

“*sweetness of speech increases persuasiveness*” (Prov 16:21)

How do I respond to my husband's sins?

Mt 7:3-5

Lk 17:3

Gal 6:1

Mt 18:15-20



1 Pet 3:1-6

Hidden person

Gentleness

Quietness

Respect

1 Peter 3:1-6

- **Hidden person of the heart** - “the wife’s inward nature, her true personality” (Wayne Grudem, *1 Peter*, p. 140)
- **Gentle** - doesn’t insist on getting their own way, isn’t pushy, self-assertive, doesn’t insist on their own rights (Mt 11:29)
- **Quiet** - quietness and peacefulness which flows from inner peace (Ps 131:2)
- **Respectful** - (1 Pet 3:2, 6; Eph 5:33)

What if he isn't very good at leading?

Be content in the Lord

Trust in God's wise plan

Trust in God's timetable

Embrace Jesus' example (1 Pet 2:21-23)

Trust that God knows what He's doing by putting your husband in charge!