

Sermon Discussion Questions: 1 Peter 3:1-7 Part II

May 26, 2019

1. What in the sermon encouraged you, comforted you, challenged you, or informed you?
2. Read 1 Peter 3:1-6. Peter instructs the wife of a husband who is not obeying the word to win him over with her conduct more than her words. Why is our conduct a crucial part of our influence among people? See 1 Timothy 4:11-13.
3. Peter calls the wife to influence her husband toward Christ through her respect and her purity. Later he calls the wife to value the beauty of character more than the beauty of appearance by adorning herself with a gentle and quiet spirit, a heart of submission, and doing good deeds of love. How do these character traits reveal the beauty of Christ? Men, how can you compliment and affirm your wife and women in order to emphasize this internal beauty of character?
4. There will be times in life when it is hard to respect, remain gentle, submit and regularly do good to a husband. When husbands sin against wives, neglect to acknowledge and serve them, or even when they respond harshly or seek to hurt with their words. What circumstances make it difficult for you to show the above virtues to your husband? How does our fear and reverence to do what is pleasing to God motivate us to love our spouses even when they don't deserve it? See Psalm 111:6-10.
5. In 1 Peter 3:7, Peter clarifies that God has designed the man with unique and greater strength for the purpose of honoring His wife with compassionate understanding. There are men that use their greater strength to disregard, devalue, and dominate their wives in destructive ways. Remember in 1 Peter 3:1-7, Peter says that men are to obey and submit to the word of the Lord (vs. 1), that men are co-heirs of the grace of life with women (vs. 7), and even that men's prayers may be hindered by disregarding women (vs. 7). How do these truths keep men from using their strength in dishonoring ways?
6. What are practical ways that men can honor their wives with understanding as they make decisions for the family and lead in the family? See the back for other suggestions for honoring your wife.

“In What ways should husbands honor their wives? In the original cultural context, such honor may have been suggested by the following:

A husband's tenderness, affection, kindness, understanding of his wife's feelings, attention to her sexual needs, giving her children, protection of her sexual purity, insuring a mutual communion that respects the common advantage of husband and wife, his delegation to her the charge ⁹cura⁰ of the household...speaking well to and of his wife publicly, and his certification in his will that his wife had been a good spouse."

Excerpt taken from Andreas & Margaret Köstenberger, *God's Design for Man and Woman*, 248