



**Guide to**  
**7 Greatest needs**  
**of a**  
**wife and husband**

## **7 Greatest Needs of a wife**

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## **Relationship scriptural reference**

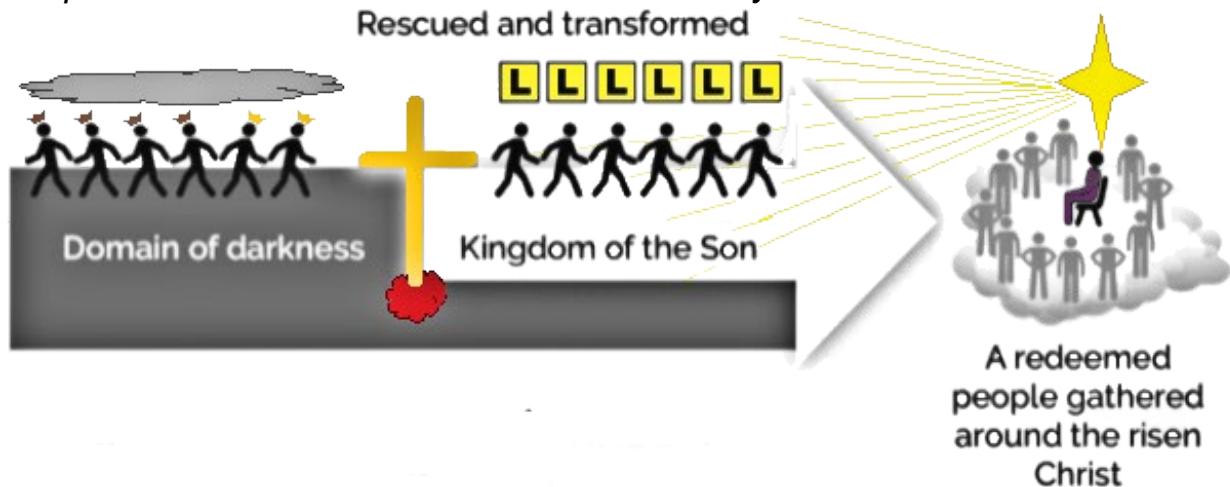
### **Appendix A**

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# 7 of the Greatest Needs of a Wife

Adapted from Ron Edmondson with additions by Ian Childs



## Here are 7 of the greatest needs of a wife

### 1. Love

**Ephesians 5:25** “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her.” How did Christ love the church? **1 John 3:16** “This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.”

Men, do you love your wife above everything else in your life (apart from your Christ relationship), including your work, your hobbies, your friends, family, and even the children? More importantly, do your actions prove your words?

## 2. Attention

Wives want to be listened to (even when the television is on and a game is playing) and impress upon them that what they have to say to us is important. Our wives would prefer to talk with us over other women, even though another woman might have far more understanding.

Men, are you truly listening to what your wife is saying? Again, do your actions prove this?

## 3. Protection

Wives want their husbands to be the defender of the family; not just against the strange sounds in the night, but against all the threats in society. They want us to take the ownership in leading our family spiritually and in teaching our kids how to defend themselves and stay strong in an evil world.

Men, are you working to protect your family—from all threats?

Are you encouraging the reading of the Bible by your children?

Are you demonstrating that you read the Bible? Do you consider your family as God's precious individuals, who are in your care?

## **4. Security/Commitment**

The wife wants to know you are going to be there forever. Wives who see their visually stimulated husbands looking at other women need to know you won't cheat on her? Are you going to be faithful always?

My Grandfather once explained it to my Grandmother this way after an admiring glance he obviously gave to a shapely girl and on being chastised - "When I see a lovely garden, I'm able to appreciate and admire it. This doesn't mean I wish to uproot the plants and take them home". I love this! However, should we look upon such women (either in person or their image) with desire or lust, then how degrading is this to our wives and the women as well.

Wives shouldn't be nor regard themselves as simply sex objects for your pleasure and gratification. The need to know you truly care for them.

Men, can she trust you? Do your actions build that confidence?

What are you teaching your sons and daughters by your attitude toward your wife as well as other women?

## 5. Appreciation/Value

Wives want to be valued for who they are as much as for what they do. Wives want to know we see them with value beyond just what she does to keep the household running. Is she more important than the stuff she does? Is she still beautiful?

Is she truly your “LifePARTNER”?

Men, do you regularly tell her what you admire about her? Do you genuinely compliment her—not just what she does?

Does she feel, that you believe her to be “your better half”?

## 6. Compassion

The [\*\*Bible\*\*](#) refers to women as the “weaker vessels.” Of course, this doesn’t mean they are actually less than men, but that men and women are different. Women are going to respond differently to situations. They may cry easier, take longer to resolve things emotionally, feel tired quicker. Also, wives want a little romance in the marriage. (For most of us, if we’ve been married over a week they already know that’s not going to happen with you, at least without significant prompting.) We can all, however, be kind, loving, and occasionally romantic. We usually get good credit here just for honestly trying.

Men, do you understand that your wife is not wired like you? Are you patient with her, allowing her to process things differently than you? Are you still attempting to be romantic at times—pursuing your wife—like you did before you were married?

When's the last time you gave her a Love note?

When's the last time you told your children how much you love them?

## 7. Partnership

Wives don't want to do life alone. They want their husband's participation in raising the kids. In making decisions around the house, and, yes, sometimes even picking out paint colours. They want someone to do life with them, not live two separate lives in the same household.

Do you really mean it? Is the bank account with most or all of the money in it a joint account between the two of you and do you trust her to have full access of it?

Men, would your wife say you are truly her partner? Are the two of you becoming one more everyday?

Ladies, that's my list. Again, it's from personal observation. What would you add to the list?

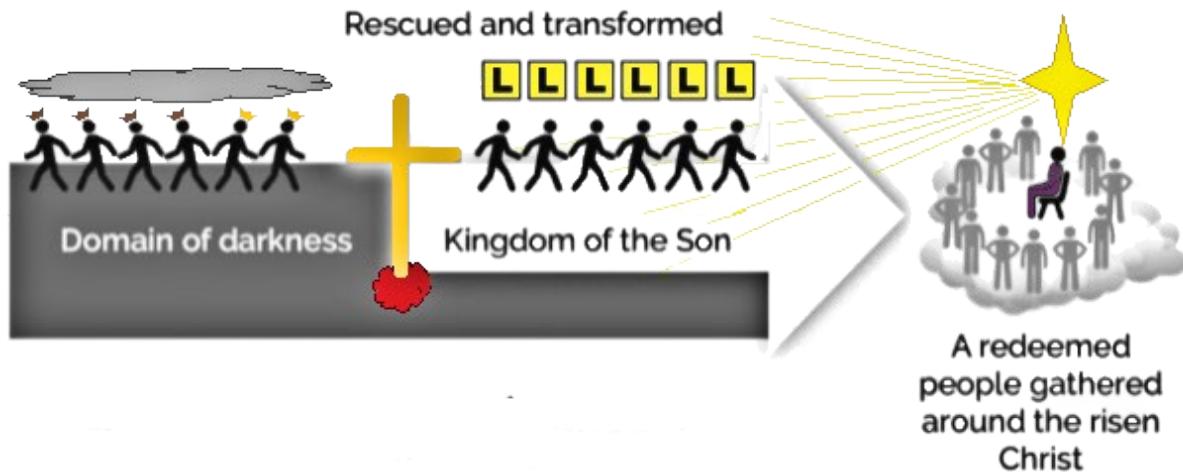
For homework check out what the Bible says:

Remember that whilst the Bible is focussed upon our relationship with our God and the Messiah, the next most prominent theme is that of monogamous marriage and the care that we provide to that relationship.

See our references to relationships and think how and if these apply. Where the language may be gendered, the application should be for all of us.

# 7 of the Greatest Needs of a Husband

Adapted from Ron Edmondson with additions by Ian Childs



## Here are 7 of the greatest needs of a husband.

**1. Respect** – This is number one! I would even be emphatic and say every time. In my experience, men are using a different word that means this if they say it isn't! [Ephesians 5:33](#) says, “However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must **respect** her husband.” God knew what He was talking about. Your man wants to know that they are respected by you, their wife, above every other person. Every man feels this internal pressure to excel and need to be successful at least one place in their life. If they can't feel that respect in their home, they shall search for it somewhere else.

What wife would not **Love a husband** who treated her in this manner?

Ladies, you want your husband to love you unconditionally. Are you willing to respect him unconditionally? You probably aren't always extremely "lovable." (I'd be afraid to say that in person to my wife —but she knows it's true, as it would be true of any of us.) He's probably not always respectable and may even be a grub. Do you want to be loved any less when you aren't at your "best"? Neither does he in this area of respect.

**2. Admiration** – Men want to be desired by their wives. That's physically, but in other ways too. Are we strong enough—masculine enough for you? Do we meet all your expectations as a man? If our wife is always commenting on the sexier man in the movies, comparing our "out of shape" or commenting about men who are more successful, we certainly won't feel admired. For example: if a family struggles financially and the wife complains about this consistently, the man hears that as "You're not good enough." The greatest assurance of the fact that we have "what it takes" comes from our wives. Men who don't sense this will often simply quit trying.

Ladies, if your husband's success was proportional to your admiration of him—and how you communicate that admiration—how successful could he be?

Do you love his touch as much as he loves yours? He needs physical intimacy with you to feel complete.

He loves to snuggle, and your children appreciate seeing affection between you at least equal to that shown to them.

**3 Peace and Tranquillity** — men want their home to be a place to prepare for the world—they want to be able to relax. Whist that is never an excuse for laziness! (Laziness is a sin, by the way.) men want their wives to be their wife, not their mother! Plus, and this is so important to understand, nagging never accomplishes what the wife hopes it will. It may get done what you wanted done, but not with the heart or attitude you hoped to go with the action. (If you are raising boys, remember this!)

Remember that if you have your way of doing something, and you ask your man to do it – don't expect it to be done exactly your way. He'll deliver what he believes you want, but he'll do it his way and if you insist, he'll likely just stop doing it at all.

Ladies, is your home a place of peace and tranquillity? Someone said the wife/mother is the thermostat of the home? If that's true, how comfortable are we living?

**4 Commitment** – Yes, men want this too! They want to know they are number one with you. Men don't want to see their wife looking with desire at other men or hear them commenting on how wonderful another man may be (especially if done in a comparative way). They want to know you are faithful only to them. (Yes, we men do have shallow and fragile egos?)

Ladies, does your husband feel the comfort that he's number one to you—that you'd never consider a replacement whilst he's still around?

**5 Acceptance/Participation** – Husbands aren't really looking for a wife who will try to change them. Granted we men do need to be changed, but the Biblical way to do this is through prayer and the modelling of change. Men also want our wives to appreciate our hobbies and interests, many of which are much a part of who we are as men. If he's into golf, you don't have to love golf, but you should know that the lower score is the better. After he comes home after a good game, he'll want to brag to someone and he's sincerely hoping that that someone is you.

Ladies, would your husband believe that you're his biggest fan?

**6 Be able to lead** – Most men want to lead in their home, but don't really know how. Wives should allow their husbands to make some mistakes and not criticise them when we can't do something as well as she can. If we take the effort to fix the bed, don't go behind us and straighten the pillows until we're out of sight. If he finds he can't do something to your satisfaction, he'll likely just quit trying. Praise when we do right, and we'll try harder to please and to do even more. We really do want to succeed and make you happy!

Ladies, are you allowing your husband to sense your satisfaction in his abilities to lead? If you want him to lead, ask yourself, are you really willing to follow if he does?

**7 An emotional release** – I saved the hardest for last. Most men do not know how to function in any highly emotional context. So, when our wives are upset, we panic. Men are fixers, so we move into a “fixing” mode, which is usually counter-productive and in hindsight you probably didn’t want that response. When you are emotionally upset, for whatever reason, and you know it isn’t his fault, it’s helpful if you can just let him know the two of you are okay, he didn’t necessarily do anything wrong, it’s not his fault, and there is nothing he needs to do to fix it.

Of course, if he was the direct cause of the issue, then you do need to calmly discuss and resolve this.

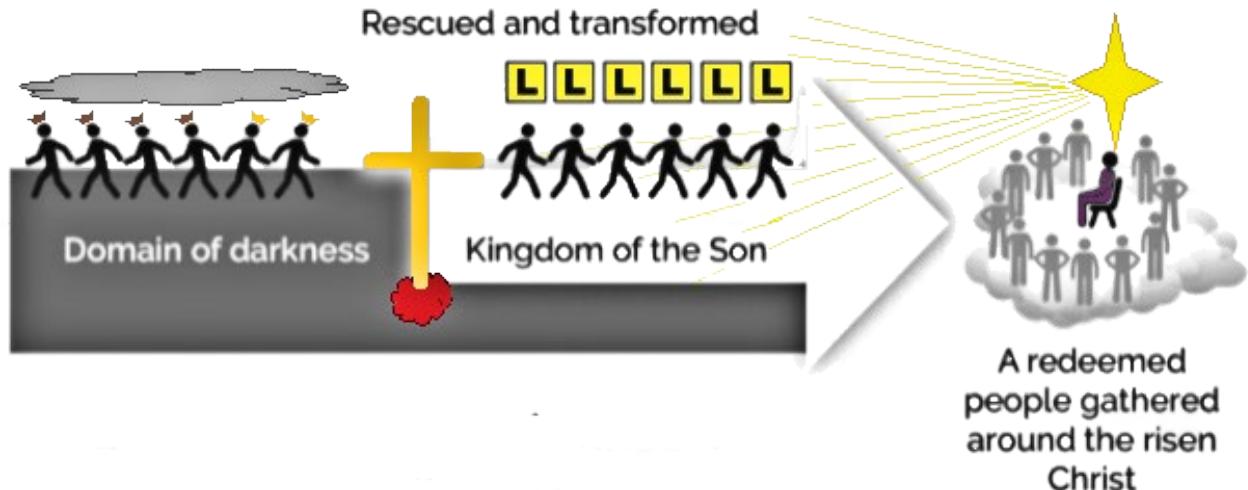
Ladies, does your husband ever feel responsible for your emotions that are completely out of his control?

For homework check out what the Bible says:

Remember that whilst the Bible is focussed upon our relationship with our God and the Messiah, the next most prominent theme is that of monogamous marriage and the care that we provide to that relationship.

See the Appendix and check the references and think how and if these apply. Where the language may be gendered, the application should be for all of us.

# Appendix - Relationships



(from the CJB) Tick all which apply to husbands and wives:

**Genesis 2:18**

ADONAI (God) said, “It is not good that the person should be alone. I will make a companion suitable for helping him.”

**Genesis 2: 23 & 24**

The man-person said, “At last! This is the bone of my bone and flesh from my flesh. She is to be called ishah (woman), because she was taken out of ish (man). This is why God decrees that a man is to leave his father and mother and stick with his wife and they are to be one flesh.

**Proverbs 18:24**

Some “friends” pretend to be friends, but a true friend sticks closer than a brother.

**Proverbs 27:17**

Just as iron sharpens iron, a person sharpens the character of his friend.

**Proverbs 31: 10&11**

Who can find a capable wife? Her value is far beyond that of pearls. Her husband trusts her from his heart and she shall prove a great asset to him.

**Song of Songs 4:7**

Everything about you is beautiful, my love; you are without flaw.

**Ecclesiastes 4: 9 & 10**

Two are better than one, in that their cooperative efforts yield this advantage: if one of them falls the other will help his partner up – woe to him who falls and has no one to help him up.

**Ecclesiastes 4: 11**

Again if two people sleep together, they keep each other warm; but how can one person be warm by himself?

## Appendix

### Ecclesiastes 4: 12

Moreover, an attacker may defeat someone who is alone, but two can resist him; and a three stranded chord is not easily broken.

### Ecclesiastes 7: 8&9

The end of something is better than its beginning, so the patient are better than the proud. Don't be quick to get angry, for only fools nurse anger.

### Matthew 7:12

Always treat others as you would like them to treat you; that sums up the teaching of the Torah (found in Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy).

### Matthew 19: 4 to 6

Jesus said "haven't you read that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female and that he said' For this reason a man should leave his father and mother and be united with his wife, and the two are to become one flesh? Thus, they are no longer two, but one. So then no one should split apart what God has joined together."

### John 13:34

Jesus said "I am giving you a new command: that you keep on loving each other, in the same way that I have loved you, you are to keep on loving each other."

### Romans 12:19

Never seek revenge my friends; instead leave that to God's anger, for in the Tanakh (OT Scripture) it is written "ADONAI says, Vengeance is my responsibility; I will repay."

### 1 Corinthians 6:18

Run from sexual immorality! Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the fornicator sins against his own body.

### 1 Corinthians 11:3

But I want you to understand that the head of every man is the Messiah, and the head of the wife is her husband, and the head of the Messiah is God.

### 1 Corinthians 11:8

For man is not made from woman, but woman from man.

### 2 Corinthians 6:14

Do not yoke yourselves together with a team of unbelievers, for how can righteousness and lawlessness be partners? What fellowship does light have with darkness?

### Ephesians 4:1~3

Therefore I, the prisoner united with the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called.

### Ephesians 4:29

Let no harmful language come from your mouth, only good words that are helpful in meeting the need, words that will benefit those who hear them.

**□ Ephesians 5: 25&26**

As for husbands, love your wives, just as the Messiah loved the Messianic Community (believers), indeed he gave himself up on its behalf in order to set it apart for God, making it clean through immersion on the mikveh (ritual purification bath or pool with a flow of fresh water), so to speak

**□ Colossians 3: 18 & 19**

Wives – subject yourselves to your husbands as is appropriate in the Lord. Husbands – love your wives and never treat them harshly.

**□ 1 Thessalonians 3:12**

And as for you, may the Lord make you increase and overflow in love toward each other, indeed – toward everyone just as we do toward you.

**□ 1 Thessalonians 5:11**

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up - just as you are doing.

**□ Hebrews 13:4**

Marriage is honourable in every respect and in particular, sex within marriage is pure. But God will surely punish fornicators and adulterers.

**□ James 1:19&20**

Therefore, my brothers let every person be quick to listen but slow to speak, slow to get angry for a person's anger does not accomplish God's righteousness!

**□ 1 Peter 3:7**

You husbands likewise conduct your married lives with understanding. Although your wife may be weaker physically, you should respect her as a fellow heir of the gift of life. If you don't your supplications to God will be blocked.

**□ 1 Peter 4:8**

More than anything, keep loving each other actively, because love covers many sins.

**□ 2 Peter 1: 5~7**

For this reason, try your hardest to furnish your faith with goodness, goodness with knowledge, knowledge with self-control, with perseverance – perseverance with godliness, godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.