

The Godly Man as A Husband
Fulfilling His Wife's Needs - Physical

1. What does I Timothy 5:8 mean to you?

2. What does Ephesians 5:31 mean to you regarding the marriage relationship?
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The sexual part of marriage is perhaps the least spoken to, and yet one of the most important. The Bible gives some clear directions which we will do well to heed.

3. What command was given in Genesis 1:27,28 before sin ever entered the world?
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4. What did God, in His infinite wisdom, declare in Genesis 2:18?

Marriage and sex are of divine origin. Grace perfects them. Sin perverts them.

5. From the following verses, list some reasons you believe God instituted sex and marriage?

- Psalm 127:3-5
- I Corinthians 7:2-5
- Genesis 2:24

6. Write out in your own words the meaning of I Corinthians 7:2-5 and then write how this should operate in marriage

The sex act to a man is mainly physical. To a woman it is not only physical but emotional and spiritual. It is the closest thing to totally giving herself that a woman can express in an act. This being true, a woman will not and cannot function well sexually while torn up emotionally. A satisfactory sexual relationship is mainly a husband's project. A sexual conflict may exist between husband and wife if there is a feeling of competition, resentment carried over from courtship, too large an age difference or differing sexual drives. The husband may have personal problems of feeling inadequate sexually, or he may be domineering and selfish. The wife's problem may spring from inner fears, pain in the relationship, puritanical ideas, or feelings of guilt and being used instead of loved. Sexual conflict may also be caused by a physical health problem in either party, a lack of time (too much to do) or simply tiredness. The first step in solving any problem is determining the cause.



7. How would you counsel a man who came to you with the following problems?

a. I have a greater sexual drive than my wife. She acts like she is doing me a favor when we have relationships.
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b. I get satisfied more quickly than my wife and this seems to leave her frustrated.
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c. After we have relations, my wife always wants to talk and I want to go to sleep.
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d. It seems like my wife's sexual desires have been dwindling steadily since the first couple of years of our marriage.
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e. Many times as we dress for bed, I indicate a sexual interest to my wife, but she seems to have little interest at that time.
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f. By the time my work day is over, I often find myself too tired to enjoy sexual relationships.
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g. It seems like my wife is always too tired to really enjoy our sharing love together.
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h. My sexual satisfaction is dependent on my wife being satisfied. Yet, she has a hard time reaching fulfillment.
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The following five phrases, if learned and practiced, will help any man improve a faltering sex life or maintain a good one. They are: Don't be: *hurried*; Don't be: *crude*; Don't be: *rude*; Don't be: *impatient*; Don't be: *selfish*.

Assignment

Many sexual problems in marriage are caused by lack of communication on the part of one partner or the other as to personal likes and dislikes regarding the sex act. Pray for boldness to openly discuss this with your wife so that both of you may experience an ever-increasing joy in each other as God intends.

Suggestions For Further Study

- Tape 1154 - Marriage and God's Purposes for Sex, Howard Hendricks
- Tape 1863 - The Other Side of Sex, Ken Poure
- Sexual Happiness In Marriage, by H. J. Miles, Zondervan
- How to be Happy Though Married, by Dr. Tim LaHaye, Tyndale House

(Two very excellent tapes on the sexual relationship in marriage are also available from the free lending library of Dr. Ed Wheat, Springdale, Arkansas.)