



Loving Mom

FATHER'S, LOVE YOUR WIVES

Three Things Fathers Can Do For Their Children

- **LOVE:**

- **Love Your God**



(Mark 12:30-31)

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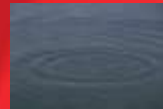


(Ephesians 5:21-33)

Three Things Fathers Can Do For Their Children

• LOVE:

—Love Your God



(Mark 12:30-31)

—Love Your Wife



(Ephesians 5:21-33)

—Love Your Children



(Ephesians 6:4)

Three Things That Fathers Can Do For Their Children

- **Fathers, if we really want to do something that will have a lasting positive benefit for our children**
 - **We need to love our wives.**
 - **And it needs to be demonstrative love that our children can witness.**
 - **An open, respectful demonstrative love will provide for our children a secure, safe haven from a world in lost in chaos.**
 - **To the extent that we love our wives, we also love our children.**

Three Things That Fathers Can Do For Their Children

- God said to man, *“Love Your Wife”*
 - *“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her” (Ephesians 5:25)*
 - *“Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.” (1 Peter 3:7)*

Three Things That Fathers Can Do For Their Children

- But, based upon our near 50% divorce rate in America you would think God said, “*Love your wife if YOU think that she is worth it!*”
- If we believe that our reason for loving someone, anyone, especially our wives *is based upon our pleasure with them, we have absolutely NO IDEA who and what Jesus Christ is all about!*
- Exact same problem the Jews had in their time.



**The Story Of Hosea and Gomer,
The Story of a Prophet & A Prostitute
– A Love Story of God for a Man of God**

**GOD SAID TO LOVE YOUR WIFE
NO MATTER WHAT!**

The Story of the Prophet and the Prostitute – A Love Story

God's command to Hosea:

"When the LORD began to speak through Hosea, the LORD said to him, "Go, take to yourself an adulterous wife and children of unfaithfulness, because the land is guilty of the vilest adultery in departing from the LORD."

(Hosea 1:2, NIV)

Response & Purpose:

- **Optional Responses:**
 - Say what?
 - I'm a Prophet, what do I want with a Prostitute?
 - OK Lord, because you said so.
- **Purpose:**
 - The people have chased other gods (adultery)
 - God wants Hosea to understand...

The Story of the Prophet and the Prostitute – A Love Story

- So what did the Prophet say or do?
- *“So he married Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.”* (Hosea 1:3, NIV)

The Story of the Prophet and the Prostitute – A Love Story

After Hosea's wife is unfaithful

*•“The LORD said to me,
"Go, show your love to
your wife again, though
she is loved by another
and is an adulteress. Love
her as the LORD loves the
Israelites, though they
turn to other gods..."*
(Hosea 3:1, NIV)

The Only Acceptable Response:

- **Love Gomer as God loves Israel...**
 - Even though she has been ungodly
 - Even though she has humiliated your ministry as a prophet
 - Even though she has shamed your family name
 - Even though she has been martially unfaithful to you
 - **LOVE HER**

The Story of the Prophet and the Prostitute – A Love Story

Scripture:

“So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley. 3 Then I told her, “You are to live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will live with you.” (Hosea 3:2-3, NIV)

Hosea does something extraordinary

- Hosea buys back the one who is already his wife.
- And she is the one who left on her own accord.
- And the one who had her did not even value her to be worth the half of a slave.
- You will be my wife & I will be your husband

Jesus tried to teach the principle in his day ("spirit of the law" & "letter of the law")

- *"Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" 3 "What did Moses command you?" he replied. 4 They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away." 5 "It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied. 6 "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' 7 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, 8 and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one. 9 Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." (Mark 10:2-9, NIV)*



The Story of Jesus and the Church
– A Love Story of God for the Men of God

GOD SAID TO LOVE YOUR WIFE
AS CHRIST LOVED THE CHURCH

Three Things That Fathers Can Do For Their Children

Scripture:

“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.” (Ephesians 5:25-27, NIV)

A Husband's Proper Response:

- Scriptural Motivation = LOVE
- Quality of love = CHRIST
 - Husbands, are you loving as Christ loved the church
 - Are you giving yourself up...
- Purpose of love =
 - CLEANSING, MAKE PURE
 - PRESENT AS RADIANT
 - Words of adoration
 - SETTING FREE FROM STAIN, WRINKLE BLEMISH
 - MADE HOLY

Three Things That Fathers Can Do For Their Children

Scripture:

“28 In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church— 30 for we are members of his body.” (Ephesians 5:25-33-30, NIV)

A Husband's Proper Response:

- **Love In Action:**
 - Love wife as own body
 - Feeding wife
 - Care of body, soul
 - Mind & spirit
 - Caring for wife
 - Attitude in Loving Action
 - Considerate
 - Just as Christ did the church
 - Not judging or condemning
 - Listening, gentle, meek spirit

Three Things That Fathers Can Do For Their Children

Scripture:

31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." 32 This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. 33 However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband."
(Ephesians 5:31-33, NIV)

A Husband's Proper Response:

- For what reason?
 - To love, to care for, to provide for, to nurture, to be united with, to become one with.
- **Profound Mystery?** (cf. Eph 1:9)
 - Husband – wife relationship is a reflection of Christ & church
- **Husband must love wife**
 - Why, children are watching
 - Children are learning about God, family, community



**The Story of Husbands and Wives in Christ's Church
– A Love Story of Christ lived out in our lives for others**

**GOD SAID TO LOVE YOUR WIFE
BECAUSE OF THE MYSTERY**

For Our Children The Mystery Is Revealed In The Husband –Wife Relationship

- **The motivation for all this is Christ and His church**
 - **The motivation is not found here on earth**
 - **It is found in the Lord of Heaven and what He has accomplished for us who believe**
 - **It is not bound up in our worth but in His Love**
 - **So it is with us who are married**
 - **We do not love because of our own worth**
 - **But because of Christ’s love placed within us**

“This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. 33 However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.” (Ephesians 5:32-33, NIV)



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