

**1 Peter: A Living Hope (5 of 8)**  
**“Faith That Blesses Marriages”**  
**Cornerstone Church of Poway**  
**Pastor Ed Turley**  
**March 5, 2023**

**Big Idea:** Jesus is our living hope, who sustains us through the trials of life.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into **a living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. **1 Peter 1:3 (NIV)**

You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show **sincere love** to each other as brothers and sisters. **Love** each other **deeply** with all your heart. **1 Peter 1:22 (NLT2)**

**Respect** everyone, and **love** your Christian brothers and sisters. Fear God, and respect the king. **1 Peter 2:17 (NLT2)**

**How To Improve Your Marriage:**

**1. As A Wife, Voluntarily Cooperate With Your Husband**

Wives, in the same way **be submissive** to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over **without words** by the behavior of their wives, when they see the **purity and reverence** of your lives.

**1 Peter 3:1-2 (NIV)**

- **Become a team player.**
- **Believe and think the best.**

**Submission is not:**

- Remaining in an unsafe situation
- Participating in what our conscience forbids
- Disobeying God

Do nothing out of **selfish ambition** or vain conceit, but in **humility** consider others better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but **also to the interests of others.** <sup>5</sup> Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus. **Philippians 2:3-5 (NIV)**

**The Respect test:** [*Love and Respect* by Dr. Emerson Eggerichs]

1. Write down what you respect and admire.
2. Pray for the right timing, and then tell them there are several things that you really admire about them. Then wait for them to ask what they are.

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. As A Wife, Develop Inner Beauty

Your **beauty** should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. Instead, it should be that of your **inner self**, the unfading **beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit**, which is of great worth in God's sight. **1 Peter 3:3-4 (NIV)**

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,** <sup>23</sup> **gentleness, and self-control.** There is no law against these things! **Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT2)**

**Which attributes would others say I possess?**

love  joy  peace  patience  kindness  
 goodness  faithfulness  gentleness  self-control

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. As A Husband, Be Understanding And Give Honor To Your Wife

In the same way, you husbands must **give honor** to your wives. Treat your wife with **understanding** as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your **equal partner** in God's gift of new life. Treat her as you should so your prayers will not be hindered. <sup>8</sup> Finally, **all** of you should be of **one mind**. **Sympathize** with each other. **Love** each other as brothers and sisters. Be **tenderhearted**, and keep a humble attitude. <sup>9</sup> Don't repay evil for evil. **Don't retaliate** with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with **a blessing**. That is what God has called you to do, and he will bless you for it. **1 Peter 3:7-9 (NLT2)**

<sup>10</sup> For the Scriptures say, "If you want to **enjoy life** and see many happy days, **keep your tongue** from speaking evil and your lips from telling lies. <sup>11</sup> Turn away from evil and **do good**. Search for **peace**, and **work to maintain it**. <sup>12</sup> The eyes of the Lord watch over those who do right, and his ears are **open to their prayers**. But the Lord turns his face against those who do evil." **1 Peter 3:10-12 (NLT2)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

➤ **What is my next right step in my relationships?**

**My Next Right Step I Will:**

Communicate respect.  
 Demonstrate understanding.  
 Give honor.  
 Be baptized as a believer in Jesus on March 26

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss.]

**Big Idea:** Jesus is our living hope, who sustains us through the trials of life.

**Open your group with a prayer.**

**Icebreaker:**

What have you admired about your grandparents or other older couples?

**Study:**

**How To Improve Your Marriage:**

**1. As A Wife, Voluntarily Cooperate With Your Husband**

**Read 1 Peter 3:1-2**

What does it mean to voluntarily cooperate with a spouse out of love and respect?

How can God use the spouse of an unbeliever?

**Read Ephesians 5:21**

What does a marriage built on voluntary cooperation and consideration look like?

**Read and discuss:**

**Commentary:** To be submissive to another's authority means to cooperate voluntarily out of love and respect for God and for that person. Ideally, submission is mutual ("Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ"—Ephesians 5:21). Even when it is one-sided, however, the expression of submission can be an effective Christian witness. Jesus Christ submitted to death so that we could be saved; we may sometimes have to submit to unpleasant circumstances so that others will see Christ in us. (Christian submission never requires us to disobey God, remain in an unsafe situation, or participate in what our conscience forbids.) One-sided submission requires tremendous strength. We could not do it without the power of the Holy Spirit working in us. Life Application Study Bible.

**2. As A Wife, Develop Inner Beauty**

**Read 1 Peter 3:3-4**

When appreciating and striving for beauty, on which do you most often focus?

**Read Galatians 5:22-23**

What attribute would others say you have?

Which attribute do you need to work on?

- love  joy  peace  patience  kindness
- goodness  faithfulness  gentleness  self-control

**Read and discuss:**

**Commentary:** 3:1-7 A changed life speaks loudly and clearly, and it is often the most effective way to influence a family member. Peter instructs Christian wives to develop inner beauty rather than being overly concerned about their outward appearance. Their husbands will be won over by their love. This does not mean that Christian women should be dowdy and frumpy; it is good to take care of oneself and look one's best. But far more important is the developing of an inner spirit of godliness. Live your Christian faith quietly and consistently in your home, so that your family will see Christ in you. True beauty begins inside (Proverbs 31:30). Life Application Study Bible.

**3 As A Husband, Be Understanding And Give Honor To Your Wife**

**Read 1 Peter 3:7-8**

In what ways can a husband be considerate to his wife and treat her with respect?

What does it look like to “live with understanding”?

What is the consequence if husbands don’t show love and understanding to their wives?

What does “harmony” look like in marriage?

**Read 1 Peter 3:9-12**

Instead of retaliation, what does God want us to do?

**Close in Prayer:** Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.

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Snack schedule: \_\_\_\_\_