

# Understanding Your Man (Part 2)

Sunday, June 23, 2024

10:30 AM

Last week I started a message entitled Understanding Your Man and said I would finish it up this morning since there were several things I couldn't get to, but that I wanted to include in this thought of understanding the men in our lives and what they need, and how we could be used of God to build them up, to bless them, to be an instrument of God in their success in being who God wants them to be.

Using Ephesians 5:33 as our focus...

## **Ephesians 5:33**

**33 However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect (revere} her husband.**

We talked about THE ACTS OF LOVE this verse commands us to show to each other as husbands and wives. First of all, the husband is commanded to show acts of AGAPE LOVE (The ACTIVE LOVE God has toward us and the ACTIVE LOVE that we are to have towards God and towards others. The love that embodies selflessness, sacrifice, and unconditional care for others, transcending mere feelings, emphasizing actions and commitment.)

Then we said that the Respect or Reverence that is called for from wives towards husbands also involves ACTS OF LOVE: Reverence is an act showing respect (Love).

And just as a reminder, these principles apply beyond the relationship of Wives to Husbands, but can also be applied to many of the MAN RELATIONSHIPS that you have in your life... Mother's to sons, Father's to sons... Children to Father's... Spiritual Mother's and Father's to Spiritual sons, Spiritual Children to Spiritual Father's. Because these are principles that describe how men were created and wired. Acts that can be applied to men both young and old, married and single. Acts that can be shown - wives toward husbands, mothers towards sons, dad's towards sons, sons towards fathers, daughters towards fathers, spiritual moms and dads towards spiritual sons, and vice versa.

We also acknowledged that many of these principles can apply towards women as well; but because God created men and women different - physically, emotionally and with different needs - my focus was going to be men and uncovering spiritual truths that might help us in ministering to the needs of men in our lives.

It's the Ephesians 4:29 principle

Ephesians 4:29

29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

So what have you done this week to build up a man in your life according to these needs?

- They need UNCONDITIONAL LOVE
- They need encouragement (built up)
- They need to know you BELIEVE in them
- They need to know you are PROUD of them
- They need to know you TRUST them (don't forget men that trust can be lost and must be earned)
- They need to know you are ON THEIR SIDE

\*Finally REMEMBER, we do these things not only directly to their face with words and actions; but also indirectly with our thoughts, and with the words and actions we use about them to other people even when they are not around.

## PART 2

They need you to be PATIENT with them (this does not mean justifying or excusing their need to change)

1 Corinthians 13:4

4 Love is patient...

Ephesians 4:2

2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Galatians 5:22

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience...

## They need to know you WON'T GIVE UP ON THEM

Men often live with a secret fear that those they love the most will eventually give up on them because they aren't good enough or because they make mistakes. Remember the enemy is always whispering in their ears. "you did it this time" "your {wife, kids, etc...} are going to give up on you.

How freeing and empowering it is to know that the people in our lives that matter most won't give up on us.

They need to know you will FORGIVE them (assuming they are truly repentant and ask for it)

Ephesians 4:32

<sup>32</sup> Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

## They love to FEEL NEEDED

*The hero instinct is a man's desire to protect his loved ones and feel needed. Relationship specialist **James Bauer** coined the term in his book *His Secret Obsession* (2021). Bauer claims that all men have a biological drive to earn your love in order to feel in love with you. Men want to feel that you appreciate and need them. If you make sure that he feels that from you, it'll boost his confidence, increase his connection with you, and ultimately, make him more excited to commit to your relationship.[\[1\]](#)*

1. Ask him for help.
2. Tell him what you need.
3. Let him protect you.
4. Tell him how happy he makes you.
5. Give him compliments and praise.
6. Show your appreciation for him.
7. Encourage him.
8. Give him your undivided attention.
9. Show him respect.
10. Appeal to his love language.
11. Be enthusiastic.

## They want you to WANT to be with them

Christian blogger Melanie Redd has written a couple of blogs that reiterate this point. In the first one she relates simply asking her husband, what are 5 things men want to hear and writing about his responses. (Most of which speak to aspects of what we have already discussed) And Again, though these specifically relate to marriage their principles can be easily adapted and applied to other men relationships

1. *I Respect You!*
2. *I Appreciate You as a Man!*
3. *I Appreciate What You Do!*
4. *I Love You!*
5. *I Think You Are the Best, and I Would Choose You if I had to do it All Over Again!*

She had such an overwhelming response that she wrote a follow-up blog... ***5 Simple but Powerful Words that All Men Love to Hear from the Women in Their Lives:***

### 1. Let's go and do that thing that you love to do!

(It makes them feel like you are investing in them and in what they enjoy. It demonstrates tangible love to them.)

### 2. Let's go and do something together that we both love to do!

(They like to spend time with us. And, to be able to enjoy time with us and time having fun is a double treat to them! They get a win/win!)

### 3. Thank you for helping me with \_\_\_\_\_ . (I'll follow up on this in my next point)

(They like to know that they have met a SPECIFIC need in our lives.)

### 4. You made a difference in someone else's life!

(They need to know that they are making a difference in people's lives around them and that you noticed!)

### 5. The fifth thing all men love to hear... (This one is not a specific thing to say...) **They like to hear our voices** – especially when our voices are soft, positive, and kind. My husband loves to hear me read to our kids, pray, or talk softly at night. He often tells me that he loves my voice, and he loves it when my voice is soft, positive, and kind.

When we read about the most excellent woman in the Bible (the one in Proverbs 31:26), we read:

*“When she speaks, her words are wise, and kindness is the rule for everything she says.”*

*\*These final two are not so much things that you do towards them but rather things you **ALLOW** them or **WELCOME** them to do for you.*

**They love it when you believe they have something to TEACH you.** (this doesn't mean they know it all, nor does it mean there is nothing they can't learn from you, but remember we are focusing on building them up according to their needs)

**They like to DO THINGS for you**

God created them to be doers... Keepers of the Garden

Acts that can be applied to men both young and old, married and single. Acts that can be shown - wives toward husbands, mothers towards sons, dad's towards sons, sons towards fathers, daughters towards fathers, spiritual moms and dads towards spiritual sons, and vice versa.