

An Excellent Companion Ephesians 5:22-24

Family

Best marriages between those recognize and submit to God's will

Marriage has lost its place of honor and blame can be laid at the feet of women as much as men
God given place of wife one of dignity and honor. She honors God and husband no better than
when remembers and appreciates fact - **Proverbs 18:22**

Wife who knows and respects God's will for her in marriage.

Commitment

Leave one relationship in favor of establishing another - **Matthew 19:5-6**

Latter relationship must take precedence over the former; Marriages suffer when the wife does
not leave mother and father; Every wife has obligations to her OWN family over all others
Hard to live with a Contentious, Nagging, Antagonistic wife - **Proverbs 19:13; 27:15; 21:9,19**

Subjection

This subjection was from the beginning - **Genesis 3:16; Ephesians 5:22; 1Corinthians 11:8-9**

This role is only appreciated by the wife who is a Christian

It suggest willful, desirable, beneficial subjection

This is opposed to assertiveness, dominance, threatening behavior - **Ephesians 5:24**

No time, no place, no thing is it proper for wife NOT to be in subjection to her husband! - **Acts 5:29**

This subjection even to unbelieving husbands - **1Peter 3:1; 1Corinthians 7:13**

From God - **Colossians 3:18**

Many object to these principles say they are degrading to women

No more degrading than for the church to be in subjection to Jesus Christ - **Ephesians 5:24**

"As unto the bow the cord is, So unto the man is woman; Though she bends him she obeys him, Useless each without the other!" - Longfellow - HIAWATHA

Suitable Helper

Involves compatibility/appropriateness to husband's needs. A compliment to him, suitable for
meeting all of his needs - **Genesis 2:18,20**

Meets needs as companion, not good for him to be alone

Physical needs - **1Corinthians 7:1-4; Hebrews 13:4**

Domestic needs - **Titus 2:5; 1Timothy 5:14; Proverbs 31:27**

Spiritual matters

Example of faithfulness - **1Peter 3:1-5**

In influencing his salvation - **1Corinthians 7:16; 1Peter 3:7**

Love

Not infatuation or based on physical attraction, but rather is a commanded love - **Titus 2:4**

Must be cultivated and expressed continually; Cannot subsist on romance and emotions; Takes
great deal of diligent effort (WORK); Love based on respect (reverence) - **Ephesians 5:33**

The Christian wife respects her husband in spite of faults or lack of enabling qualities - **1Peter 3:6**

Godly Wife

Not exhaustive study of wife any more than we exhausted study of what the husband should be.

Hopefully will help in further study of what God would have you be as wife - **Proverbs 31:10-31**

Role of woman is God appointed and if woman is pleasing to God as a wife, she must be aware of
her God given responsibilities and submit to them or she is not a Christian

"Woman was created to complement man, to supply what he lacked. She gives his life meaning; she encourages, motivates, and inspires. She brings peace and contentment. She stabilizes and at the same time stimulates. Man needs woman's feminine influence to make his life complete and happy. Men and women were created to be husbands and wives." (Ruth E. Hazelwood - The Challenge of Being a Wife)