

**Session 6 – The Wife’s Role** (*continued*)  
*Ephesians 5:22-24,33; 1 Peter 3:1-6*

**II. Helper/partner**

Genesis 2:18

Proverbs 31:10-12

Need for love/affection

It binds and builds

Titus 2:4

**A. Ideally suited**

Genesis 2:18

1. No one else can contribute in same way.

Proverbs 12:4

Proverbs 18:22

2. Intimate knowledge - unique opportunity to support and assist in areas of need unobtrusively.
3. Requires commitment/selflessness. Need to work at this continually.

**B. Husband is primary ministry**

1. Primary ministry of church

Ephesians 5:24

2. Not exclusive, reinforce prior attention concept

3. Provide home

a. Atmosphere of encouragement, understanding, refuge

b. He can depend on her - doesn't like to admit dependence - she doesn't remind him of it

- c. Doesn't try to manipulate - discusses freely
- d. Trap or opportunity: The key is attitude
- e. Exhibit contentment with role

I Timothy 6:6

C. Contribute as member of partnership

- 1. Industrious in areas of responsibility

Proverbs 31

- 2. Honest communication (possible conflict)

Amos 3:3

- 3. Helpful suggestions/ideas: delicate area, timing and attitude are key
- 4. Doesn't sulk: express, forgive, forget

D. Character adornment

I Peter 3:3-6

- 1. Beauty not only external - deteriorates/fades
- 2. Gentle, quiet spirit: inner beauty, grows with years
- 3. Strength, dignity, humor, wisdom, kindness, industry

Proverbs 31:25-27

Delightful result

Proverbs 31:28,29

E. Result of survey - What husband desires from wife

- 1. Wife content with role
- 2. Support in his areas of need
- 3. Home: affection, understanding, encouragement

4. Dress like women
5. Skillful use of makeup, perfume, etc.
6. Cleanliness/daintiness (intimate)
7. Encouragement: comments on strengths
8. Allow them to be gentlemen

### **A Wife's Prayer**

*Father, I pray that our marriage will become more and more intimate and harmonious, like the relationship between You and Your Son. Enable me to do my part in stimulating this unity by respecting, admiring and submitting to the one You have given to be my leader. Thank .you that Your design,for marriage is for our good that we may find maximum gladness andjuljillment, and Jor Your glory as together we reveal You to others.*

*Thank you, for uniuqel v designing me to be a helper suitable to m v husband. Mar he be, next to You, the number one person in m v life - at the top of my daily priority list. Make me sensitive to his needs and delighted to meet them. Cause me to chatter less and listen more, to understand his intentions and cooperate with his ideas and plans, to have a teachable, flexible spirit that does not insist on my viewpoints or my way of doing things. Above all, love him through me with Your unconditioned love,for him that will overshadow his \_faults and,failures and support him in the hour of his temptation. Cause me to focus m v thoughts on the things about him that I admire, and give' me the words to express this admiration to him. I want to be whole-heartedly on his team, his greatest supporter and fan.*

*Make me aware of the slightest deviation from this Your way for me. And when I offend him h y word or attitude, give me the grace to seek his forgiveness immediately, though it be a dozen -or even a hundred -times a day.*

*Cause me always to remember that Christ is my life - that He is a tremendous power within me, making me sufficient to be the helper my husband needs. Together may we show our children, in "living color," an example of Your love.*

*In Jesus Name, Amen*