

R-E-S-P-E-C-T –GIVE IT TO ME! GIVE IT TO ME!

Ephesians 5:22-33

Few passages have elicited such emotion, misunderstanding and arguments as when the Apostle Paul says, “Wives respect your husbands.”

Why did Paul not say, “Wives love your husbands” instead of admonishing them to respect their husbands? As we consider a few truths about men and respect allow me to attempt to paint a picture of what respect is all about to a man.

I. WHAT DOES RESPECT LOOK LIKE?

A. Respect from a woman is about her giving a man the opportunity to be respected.

- 1. Men want to be seen as protector and provider above all else**
- 2. It is more important for a man to be important to his wife and family than to anyone else.**

B. Respect from a woman is about her giving a man the opportunity to be true to his God-given role.

- 1. Men must understand that respect that is demanded is a dictatorship—give it up dictators are always doomed.**
- 2. Men must remember that respect that is earned is called servanthood—earn respect by serving.**

C. Respect from a woman is SOMETIMES about her changing her attitude.

- 1. Many woman argue that they will respect a man when he earns it—yet no man can usually earn their respect.**
- 2. Many women would be amazed at the results if they chose to give a man a measure of respect in advance—he might actually live up to it.**

3. No matter how disappointing the man in your life may be, he can be respected as a person and a child of God.

II. HOW DOES RESPECT SOUND?

A. Openness when listening.

B. Respect when speaking.

Men will very often refuse to communicate or cooperate if they feel constantly criticized.

C. Support for his decisions.

III. WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

A. It means consideration

B. It means cooperation

CONCLUSION