

Scriptures and materials used in this prayer focus!

Love your wife.

Ephesians 5:25-28 (MSG)

²⁵ Husbands, go all out in your **love** for your wives, exactly as Christ did for the church—a love marked by giving, not getting.

²⁶ Christ's love makes the church whole. His words evoke her beauty. Everything he does and says is designed to bring the best out of her,

²⁷ dressing her in dazzling white silk, radiant with holiness.

²⁸ And that is how husbands ought to love their wives. They're really doing themselves a favor—since they're already "one" in marriage.

Ephesians 5:25-28 (AMP)

²⁵ Husbands, **love** your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

²⁶ So that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the Word,

²⁷ That He might present the church to Himself in glorious splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such things [that she might be holy and faultless].

²⁸ Even so husbands should love their wives as [being in a sense] their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself.

Ephesians 5:25-28 (NKJV)

²⁵ Husbands, **love** your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

²⁸ So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

John 15:12 (NKJV)

“This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

Live considerately with your wife.

1 Peter 3:7 (RSV)

⁷ Likewise you husbands, live **considerately** with your wives, bestowing honor on the woman as the weaker sex, since you are joint heirs of the grace of life, in order that your prayers may not be hindered.

1 Peter 3:7 (TLB)

⁷ You husbands must **be careful** of your wives, being **thoughtful** of their needs and **honoring** them as the weaker sex. Remember that you and your wife are partners in receiving God's blessings, and if you don't treat her as you should, your prayers will not get ready answers.

1 Peter 3:7 (NKJV)

⁷ Husbands, likewise, dwell with *them* with **understanding**, giving **honor** to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as *being* heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

1 Peter 3:7 (KJV)

⁷ Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with *them* **according to knowledge**, giving **honour** unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; **that your prayers be not hindered.**

“It is implied that there might be such a way of living as effectually to hinder prayer; that is, to prevent its being offered aright, and to prevent any answer. This might occur in many ways. If the husband treated the wife unkindly; if he did not show her proper respect and affection; if there were bickerings, and jealousies, and contentions between them, there could be no hope that acceptable prayer would be offered. A spirit of strife; irritability and unevenness of temper; harsh looks and unkind words; a disposition easily to take offence, and an unwillingness to forgive, all these prevent a "return of prayers." Acceptable prayer never can be offered in the tempest of passion, and there can be no doubt that such prayer is often "hindered" by the inequalities of temper, and the bickerings and strifes that exist in families. Yet how desirable is it that husband and wife should so live together that their prayers may not be hindered! How desirable for their own peace and happiness in that relation; how desirable for the welfare of children!”

Barnes' Notes on the New Testament.

Guard your wife.

John 17:12 (AMP)

¹² While I was with them, **I kept and preserved them** in Your Name [in the knowledge and worship of You]. Those You have given Me I guarded *and* protected, and not one of them has perished *or* is lost except the son of perdition [Judas Iscariot—the one who is now doomed to destruction, destined to be lost], that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

John 17:12 (MSG)

¹² As we are one heart and mind. As long as I was with them, **I guarded them** In the pursuit of the life you gave through me; I even posted a night watch. And not one of them got away, Except for the rebel bent on destruction (the exception that proved the rule of Scripture).

John 17:12 (TLB)

¹² During my time here **I have kept safe** within your family all of these you gave me. I guarded them so that not one perished, except the son of hell, as the Scriptures foretold.

1 Samuel 2:35 (NKJV)

³⁵ Then I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest *who* shall **do according to what is in My heart and in My mind**. I will build him a sure house, and he shall walk before My anointed forever.