

# THAT YOUR PRAYERS BE NOT HINDERED 1 PETER 3:1-7

Text: 1 Peter 3:7

Introduction:

We live in a day when marriages are crumbling. The good news is that God has a remedy. He is the Great Physician, and He has a plan that will heal a hurting home.

What does it take to heal a hurting home?

## **1. LIVING HUMBLY (1 PET 3:1)**

### **1 Peter 3:1**

<sup>1</sup>Likewise, ye wives, *be* in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;

### **Ephesians 5:21**

<sup>21</sup>Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

How is it possible for people to live with a spirit of submission?

The answer is humility.

## **James 4:10**

<sup>10</sup> Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

The first step in healing a hurting home is humility. You must admit that you need help and be willing to get it.

### A. Humble Before God

#### **1 Peter 3:3-4**

<sup>3</sup> Whose adorning let it not be that outward *adorning* of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; <sup>4</sup> But *let it be* the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, *even the ornament* of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

Living humbly before God is an issue of the heart.

Our society is obsessed with the external. God wants the emphasis to be on the heart. He wants our hearts to be tender and open to Him.

God resists the proud.

#### **James 4:6**

<sup>6</sup> But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

### B. Humble Before One Another

#### **1 Peter 3:5-6**

<sup>5</sup> For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: <sup>6</sup> Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord:

whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

The Bible doesn't teach a chauvinistic domination of women by men. God's plan is for the man to be a servant leader.

God wants us to be humble toward each other.

Humility toward God must precede humility toward each other.

**Proverbs 13:10**

<sup>10</sup> Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.

If there is contention and strife in your home it is an indication of pride rather than humility.

## **2. LIVE HELPFULLY (1 PET. 3:2)**

**1 Peter 3:2**

<sup>2</sup> While they behold your chaste conversation *coupled* with fear.

Conversation refers to our manner of living or pattern of behavior.

Part of God's prescription for healing a hurting home is that we are helpful to each other.

A. A helpful wife is a godly wife

### **Proverbs 31:10-15**

<sup>10</sup> Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price *is* far above rubies. <sup>11</sup> The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. <sup>12</sup> She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. <sup>13</sup> She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. <sup>14</sup> She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar. <sup>15</sup> She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens.

The Bible describes the model wife as a virtuous or godly woman and says that she is of great value.

She is committed to doing good and helpful things for others. (vs. 12)

She rises early to make sure that the physical needs of her family are met.

### **B. A Helpful Husband is a Christ-Like Husband**

#### **Ephesians 5:28-29**

<sup>28</sup> So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. <sup>29</sup> For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

#### **Ephesians 5:33**

<sup>33</sup> Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife *see* that she reverence *her* husband.

God doesn't intend for the husband to be the dictator in his home. I believe that God had ordained the husband to be the head of the home. God never calls a

leader to exercise dominion over his followers. The greatest is the one who serves.

**Luke 22:25-27**

<sup>25</sup> And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. <sup>26</sup> But ye *shall not be* so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. <sup>27</sup> For whether *is* greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? *is* not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.

God's plan for the home is for the husband to live as Christ lived and show His love to his wife and children.

Christ love for the church was a serving love.

### **3. LIVE HONORABLY**

The final step to restoring a damaged home and relationships is bringing honor back to your home.

Honor is usually one of the first causalities in a damaged relationship. Rather than treating your spouse with respect you begin to think and say unkind and hurtful things.

Words have tremendous power. The words you use either build up or break down.

There are two key ingredients of living a life that honors your spouse.

## A. Dwelling with knowledge

### **1 Peter 3:7**

<sup>7</sup> 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.

Honor requires understanding.

#### 1. Ask God for wisdom

### **James 1:5**

<sup>5</sup> If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

#### 2. Listen

You cannot expect to bring honor to your home by dwelling with understanding unless you take time to stop and listen.

### **James 1:19**

<sup>19</sup> Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

#### 3. Dwell with respect

