

1 Peter 3:7

“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

- “Likewise” (saying something “like” he’s said before)
 - Submission is the main theme throughout this section.
 - 2:13, 18; 3:1, 7–8; 5:5.
 - A sense, then, in which husbands should submit to their wives.

1 Peter 3:7

- “dwell with them with understanding” (“according to knowledge”)
 - ★ 4 things of which husbands should have an understanding.
 1. An understanding of Christ, because you must love her as Christ loves the church (Eph. 5:25).

1 Peter 3:7

2. An understanding of the marriage relationship.

- You LEFT father and mother to cleave to her.
- You made a covenant with her, with God as your witness.
- You were joined together by God, and so you are now bound to each other (“tied in a knot”).

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3. An understanding of your particular duties as a husband (1 Cor. 7:3–5; Eph. 5:25–33; Col. 3:19).
4. An understanding of her.
 - “a helper suitable for him” (Gen. 2:18).
 - “nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man” (1 Cor. 11:9).
 - Included in this is an understanding of her individual needs (Phil. 2:3–4).

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- “giving honor to the wife”
 - Value her, esteem her, cherish her (NOT, put her down, or be hypercritical of her).
 - A different form of the same word is used in 1 Peter 1:19, in reference to the “*precious* blood of Christ.”
 - Proverbs 31:28–31.

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- “as to the weaker vessel”
 - Doesn’t demean or diminish her in any way—it’s given as a reason to honor her.
 - FRAGILE. HANDLE WITH CARE.
 - She is weaker physically.
 - She is also more delicate emotionally, and so she needs strength and stability from her husband. She needs to be nourished and cherished.

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- “and as being heirs together of the grace of life”
 - The husband may be the head, but he is not ahead—spiritually speaking.
 - Made differently, given different roles, but spiritual equals.
 - Galatians 3:28.

1 Peter 3:7

- “that your prayers may not be hindered”
 - Hindered is from a word that literally means “to cut in, to interrupt.” The message to heaven is short-circuited.
 - Matthew 5:23–24.