

Revelation #46 – HEAD of Household: Rights & Responsibilities

Recently, we had a ministry with a couple where the man believed he had the right to rule over his wife and that if she didn't obey him, she was being rebellious. You can imagine the kinds of conflict they were experiencing. They were on their last legs and came for help out of desperation. We have seen this hundreds of times, most often because of their religious teaching and their insecurities that breed a high need to control. This conversation led me to preparing the following teaching about what it really means to be "head of the house", biblically and practically. Of course, the main key to understanding it is to remember that Jesus is OUR Head, and that He is also our Model of what that looks like. The question we have to ask ourselves is, "Do my actions and attitude towards my spouse look like His?" Jesus always leads by INVITATION, Never by COMMAND!

What it IS:

Shepherd – protect, provide, deliver, save, rescue, feed, guide

Lover and husband – mutual submission, love, honor, respect, enjoyment and blessing; unity, oneness, equality, partnership, helpmeet;

Disciple of Christ – faithful, merciful, forgiving, gracious; serving one another;

Fruit of the Spirit – Gentleness, kindness, goodness, humility, self-control, patience, long-suffering, peace, joy;

Prophetic – build up, encourage, comfort; speak truth in love;

Friend – listen, affirm, empower, support; steadfast; sticks closer than a brother;

Other: love, cleanse, feed, show grace; invite; valuing; validating; affirming;

What it is NOT:

Sheriff: A right to command, demand, punish and enforce;

Judge: make all decisions; proclaim judgments; having the final say;

Teacher/Instructor/Boss: train, instruct, discipline, test, correct

Do NOT: Criticize, condemn, punish, violate, put down, mock, use sarcasm, belittle, yell at, abuse, enable, withhold love, boast, be proud, be easily angered, keep a record of wrongs, take offense;

Scriptures:

I Corinthians 13; Gal 5; Gal 3:8; Eph 4:15; Eph 5; Col 3:19; I Peter 3:7; I Tim 5:8;

Based on these overwhelmingly clear guidelines, how are we doing as “Heads” of household? I hope this provokes us to look to our source of authority and love, realizing that unless we are connected to Him, this is a form of leadership that is impossible! Instead of abuse and control and demanding our rights, we need more grace and wisdom to step into our rightful places of leadership. I hope this might serve as a tool to help bring balance and correction to what has been a major source of pain and destruction to countless marriages! Be blessed as you walk honestly and humbly in whatever place of responsibility the Lord has entrusted you with!!

Love, Brian