## **Husband and Wife Relationship Q&A**

## Jim Downing

- I. Survey of biblical material on being a husband.
  - A. Two exhortations: the wife is to love the husband as Christ and the husband is to love the wife as Christ loves the church. (Ephesians 5:21-33)
  - B. Other Scriptural passages. (Colossians 3:19; 1 Peter 3:7; Matthew 19; John 2)
- II. Discussion.
  - A. What can be done to be a better husband?
    - 1. We have to make allowance for the fact that a woman is not a man.
    - 2. One needs to be careful about a critical tone of voice.
    - 3. Help with work at home.
    - 4. It is important to show some public affection.
  - B. What are some of the hindrances to being a good husband?
    - 1. The hustle and bustle of life.
    - 2. When no one is in charge, the husband should take over.
    - 3. A lack of division of responsibility in finances. It is difficult to get wives involved in this area though.
    - 4. Lack of proper communication. (Proverbs 13:10)
    - 5. It is not natural for a woman to want authority when the man is not exercising it. (1 Timothy 5:14)
      - a. Women manage the household as their domain.
      - b. They are the only ones who can do this.
      - c. Most women want to be spared from higher-level decisions; the only reason they would be getting involved is if the husband is negligent.
    - 6. A lack of partnership in the finances.
    - 7. Sexual problems that lead to divorce.
      - a. Complete communication and understanding is needed in this area.

- b. Sexual incompatibly is probably a leading factor in "undeclared" war.
- c. The speaker is convicted that he is the final authority in this area in the home. The wife is to cede authority to the husband and is not accountable for his poor decisions.
- d. There is no such thing as a frigid woman only a clumsy man.
- 8. The role of a woman in leadership is unbecoming and unnatural.
- 9. Christians must recognize that things do change even though Christian principles do not.

## III. Conclusion.

- A. The real problem is self.
- B. It is a pride issue. (Proverbs 13:10)

## Application questions.

1. Summarize the major points brought up with husband-wife relations.
2. What points did you take away from the discussion? Where there some things you disagreed with? Explain.
3. What areas of your marriage do you struggle with (or foresee struggling with)? What will you do in light of this message to correct your behavior and love your spouse more intentionally?