

## Angie's Marriage Column ~ June 24, 2009- 2014

### Treat Your Man like a Man

**Ask Angie:** Oh my goodness! I'm not sure, but from reading this article ([How To Treat Your Man Like A Man](#)), it sounds like you like your husband's 'control'. Some women do I suppose. ...Did I read correctly that you submit sexually everyday to his desires to get what you want? Not me, no thanks. That's not what I need in my life. There is a problem when a husband has demands & a wife submits under *his* control. I will not be a doormat any longer. A woman should be able to have her needs met without feeling like she HAS to give in to her husband's demands in life at his every little whim just because he is MAN & God created man to be the head of the household. I sometimes want to just give up because what I do is never good enough for him. I'm becoming an unrecognizable angry & bitter person. I can't even do church activities without him becoming jealous. I recently lost weight.... He hates hearing comments from the few 'older' married gentlemen at church that I look great. Also, as a side note, I'm conservative in my attire - no cleavage or legs showing almost ever! No tight clothing. I have nothing to show for. When I lost my weight, I was 145 lbs (5'8")...average, nothing special and he was jealous about yet another part of my life. Nothing makes him happy except me following his guidelines. I'm not sure what to do.

**I highly suggest that you print this marriage column out and discuss it with your husband. After all it takes two to do the tango and both husband and wife to restore the marriage. How is it going to help your marriage if only you read and apply the guidance? Make things easier on yourselves by having a bible study with your husband. Click on the article links and print those articles out as well. There are questions to ponder at the end of the articles you can both discuss together.**

**Marriage Guidance:** The article [How to Treat Your Man like a Man](#) is more of a "teaching wives" article on how marriage SHOULD be according to God. I have written my fair share for husbands too, plus I have written a whole book on [How A Husband Should Love His Wife](#). I totally understand where you are coming from. You are upset, resentful and frustrated with how your marriage is going, as many Christian couples probably are.

## God Commands That All Christians Submit! Ephesians 5:21 ~

Did you know husbands should also submit to their wives for the submission thing to work-it's called "give and take"? **Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. (Ephesians 5:21)** The fact is both husband and wife are called to submit to one another. If a husband does not “first” love (humble himself to) God, then he will have a very difficult time loving (humbling himself to) his wife the way God has commanded him to? If a husband doesn't allow God to direct his spirit then he cannot love and care for his wife properly—he won't know how!

Sincere love for our spouse involves selfless giving. By accepting God's love and forgiveness for our own life, it frees us to go ahead and take our *eyes off of self* so we can begin to love our spouse unconditionally. **This is what submission is!!** Jesus Christ submitted His will to the Father, and we honor Christ by following his example. So when we submit to God, like we are supposed to, then we are able to better understand how to submit to the person we married and all others we interact with on a daily basis.

We submit, not because we have to, or it is a wife's duty but because it feels right to do so. Even so, God does explain that a wife should (it is her duty to) submit to her husband for the sake of harmony in the marriage. **Wives submit yourselves unto your own husbands as unto the Lord. (Ephesians 5:22)**

But...if it truly doesn't feel right to some Christian women to “give in” to their husbands headship then perhaps something is askew with the marriage. Perhaps the husband *is* too controlling and has underlying insecurities from his childhood. If a husband is controlling, demanding, jealous and abusive this produces resentment in wives and causes numerous other marital difficulties. This is why it is so very important for husbands and wives to understand [the purpose of submission in marriage](#).

*Submission is compassion, forgiveness, and love*—it is not for the purpose of dictatorship (demands, control, and verbal abuse). A woman who is married to a dictator would feel resentful and rebel against this kind of abuse. But now you know “why” a Christian husband may be demanding or controlling, and you can help him to see this worldly control. Just because a wife or

husband has a fault or weakness such as this does not mean they can't work on ridding it from the marriage and make the marriage stronger.

If we do not have the love of God in our heart we certainly cannot understand this wisdom, and unfortunately this is why marriages are having so many difficulties. Childhood environment has a lot to do with how we manage our marriage and what we believe to be true for our marriage. If we felt unloved or abandoned as children we are more apt to control others because of our own fear of losing them...this person needs inner healing. Only Christ can free us of our demons and past...but we have to be willing to let those demons go.

### **What Can A Wife Do?**

So what can you do? You need to sit your hubby down and be lovingly assertive with him about how you feel. Instead of becoming resentful and bitter about his possessiveness and jealousy, speak up for yourself and nicely explain to him that he has nothing to worry about. God does not want a woman to become frustrated with her marriage because her man is too controlling.

Be [lovingly assertive](#) about "how you feel" and "why you feel" the way you do. If your husband has issues buried within this is how he will be able to bring them out and realize he may be too overbearing and jealous when he shouldn't be. Help him (be supportive) to understand "why" he might be jealous.

### **Encourage One Another in The Lord**

Wives and husbands should encourage one another "in the Lord"...as long as they remain within the boundaries of Christ's principles for marriage, then there shouldn't be any problems, and when issues do arise, they can surely work them out better with Christ on their side.

Husbands need to understand [how to apply their headship position with love and care](#). Many women these days are brought up in feminist households and they do not understand or even realize they are being disrespectful, bossy, and controlling when they discount, undermine, or reject their husbands decision making.

I was in the same situation as you many years ago...but I learned to assert myself, in a good way--in a productive way with my husband. You have to let him know that you appreciate his protectiveness and love him for being watchful, but there is nothing for him to be jealous about. Learn to [be more assertive](#) with your husband. Communication works wonders. When couples actually take the time to have intimate conversations with one another they can really learn a lot about each other, and that helps the marriage out so much.

### **Did I Do or Say Something That May Have Triggered Jealousy In My Spouse?**

Next time your husband gets jealous, ask yourself, "*Did I do anything to trigger his jealousy*"? "Show" your husband that he has nothing to worry about. I've observed that when a woman makes eye contact with another man and smiles, sometimes they take it as flirting and the man will continue to stare. And then the husband sees it and thinks there is something going on.

You have to "show" your husband that these men "who like to stare" and "give praise" and compliments" mean nothing to you and that he is your knight in shining armor. Be your husband's wife by behaving the part. Don't give any other men any reason to believe that you need their praise and flirty glances. Some women no matter how they dress and behave will get stares from other men, even when they are with their husbands. Unfortunately, there is not much you can do about that—just make sure that you are not staring back, or even making eye contact.

I highly commend you on your choice of dress and style--it shows you love and trust in God. A woman who is confident in who she is *in the Lord* does not need to show off any unnecessary skin. She does not need the praise, flirty looks, and advances that come with bearing unnecessary body parts. You are being a good example to others and that's great!

### **[How Should A Christian Husband Protect His Wife](#)**

To better help you to better encourage and support your husband's position in the marriage, remember to always come back to "[How A Christian Husband Should Protect His Wife](#)". This is the duty of husbands and should be considered by all Christian men. Which is, in the same way Jesus would

protect and care for His Church by reading [Loving Your Spouse With Wisdom](#).

Jesus wouldn't abuse His authority over His people (church), but He would be a loving example, teacher, encourager, and protector of His people, wouldn't he?

Explain this to your husband when you sit him down in a loving and assertive way. :-) In other words...your husband has every right to be loving and protective but not controlling and demanding. There is a big difference, and you need to know what those differences are. Please read through more of the marriage articles on the Heaven Ministries website for more encouragement.

Bottom line is the man is best suited for the role as [the King of His Castle](#) and you are best suited for the role of [Queen of the castle](#). Understand your blessings (wisdom and gifts) and use them wisely in your marriage.

Blessings,  
Angie and Frank :-)

Article Resource: [How to Treat Your Husband Like a Man](#)

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