

CouplesInBloom.com – I Want The Weak

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“Come to Me all you who labor (*literally* **feel fatigue**) and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” ⇒ Matthew 11:28. God **wants the weak** for the purpose of giving them His strength (the enemy wants the weak, too, to destroy them ⇒ 1 Peter 5:8; John 10:10). God’s process and motivation for the Bride of Christ is also a very important principle in marriage because God made the wife weaker than her husband ⇒ 1 Peter 3:7 for very important reasons we need to understand for our marriage to prosper as God intends it to:

Understand: God is **not** promoting weakness, laziness, or any such lack. Instead He **is** describing how He created marriage to work best: **aggressive love by the husband** and **aggressive submission by the wife** ⇒ 1 Peter 3:1-7. A husband’s aggressive love casts out his wife’s fear of aggressive submission ⇒ 1 John 4:18 **as God’s love does for us. This is how passionate intimacy happens** in our relationships with God and our spouse.

Understand: the husband is the **leader** ⇒ 1 Corinthians 11:3; this is why he is called the **lover** and his wife is called the beloved: from his **initiating** love ⇒ Song Of Solomon. The response a husband wants from his wife is precisely that: what his life brings back to him. Yes, yes, yes; the wife has her responsibilities before God too, but the entire Bible clearly and repeatedly says **how** this all happens, from Genesis 1:1 ⇒ “In the beginning God created...” (**initiated**), to Revelation 22:21 ⇒ God’s grace being given (**initiated**).

Understand: **the need to lead the weak in love is continuous** because relationship is continuous. As religiosity is the counterfeit of relationship, so non-continuously loving a wife lacks the authenticating characteristics that give the marriage relationship its **value**.

Marriage problems predictably happen when God’s leading-by-loving is lacking.



⇐ This picture illustrates God’s love, which is His pattern for Christian marriage: He desires His Bride... who is clearly weak. Her weakness is her husband’s ministry. Her weakness is **not** chosen (which would be the sin of manipulation on her part). Her weakness **is** actually a gift from God to help her husband and herself learn what a true relationship **is**.

For marriages with a wife who owns submission but with a husband who does not lead by love, God says in 1 Peter 3 ⇒ that her lifestyle of fearing God by not fearing Godly submission is *literally* “extremely expensive” in His sight, Who will greatly reward her for it ⇒ Luke 6:35.

For marriages with a husband who loves his wife who does not respond to him in submission, God says in Ephesians 5 ⇒ he is to keep on loving her as Christ loved the church: giving everything to reach out to love the one who gave Him nothing... the greatest gift ⇒ John 15:13.

“Then we who are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the **weak**, and not to please ourselves. Let every one of us please his neighbor (*literally* near, close (our spouse more than anyone else!)) for his good, to building up.” ⇒ Romans 15:1-2. Marriage is ministry and follows God’s model of marrying us, so helping each other’s weaknesses is essential. **“I want to help the weak parts in you” needs to be our motivation, just as it is God’s. ♥**