

50 Commands of Christ - 8 - (#33-35)

33. Beware of covetousness—*Luke 12:15*. What does “covetousness” mean?

What signs of greed can show up in a person’s life?

We generally associate greed with money; can we be greedy about other things?

What does God say is the result of greed? *Proverb 15:27, Ecclesiastes 5:10, James 4:1-2*

34. Honor marriage—*Matthew 19:6, 19:9*.

How should a married couple relate to each other? *1 Corinthians 7:2-5, Ephesians 5:21-33, Colossians 3:18-19, 1 Peter 3:1-2, 7, Hebrews 13:4*

Dr. Emerson Eggerichs wrote an excellent book, *Love & Respect*. He shows that strength in a marriage comes from the husband giving his wife unconditional love and the wife giving her husband unconditional respect. But the cycle is easily broken: without love from him, she responds without respect; without respect from her, he reacts without love. What things break the healthy cycle in your marriage?

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| G a. My spouse appears unreasonable | G b. I appear unreasonable |
| G c. My spouse doesn’t make sense | G d. I don’t make sense |
| G e. My spouse is harsh and/or critical | G f. I am harsh and/or critical |
| G g. My spouse is inconsiderate | G h. I am inconsiderate |
| G i. We argue about sex, money, in-laws, children, or _____ | |
| G j. My spouse won’t talk | G k. I won’t talk |
| G l. My spouse talks too much | G m. I talk too much |
| G n. Other _____ | |

What does the Bible say about a good wife? A quarrelsome wife? *Proverb 12:4, 21:9, 21:19*

What did God say about marrying an unbeliever? *1 Kings 11:1-4, 1 Corinthians 7:13-16*

33. Beware of covetousness

Luke 12:15 - Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

Proverb 15:27 - A greedy man brings trouble to his family, but he who hates bribes will live.

Ecclesiastes 5:10 - Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless.

James 4:1-2 - What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God.

34. Honor marriage

Matthew 19:6 - So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.

Matthew 19:9 - I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery.

1 Corinthians 7:2-5 - ²But since there is so much immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. ³The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. ⁴The wife's body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband's body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife. ⁵Do not deprive each other except by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

Colossians 3:18-19 - Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.

1 Peter 3:1-2 - Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives.

1 Peter 3:7 - Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

Hebrews 13:4 - Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.

Proverb 12:4 - A wife of noble character is her husband's crown, but a disgraceful wife is like decay in his bones.

Proverb 21:9 - Better to live on a corner of the roof than share a house with a quarrelsome wife.

Proverb 21:19 - Better to live in a desert than with a quarrelsome and ill-tempered wife.

1 Kings 11:1-4 - ¹ King Solomon, however, loved many foreign women besides Pharaoh's daughter—Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians and Hittites. ² They were from nations about which the Lord had told the Israelites, “You must not intermarry with them, because they will surely turn your hearts after their gods.” Nevertheless, Solomon held fast to them in love. ³ He had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines, and his wives led him astray. ⁴ As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been.

1 Corinthians 7:13-16 - ¹³ And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him. ¹⁴ For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.

¹⁵ But if the unbeliever leaves, let him do so. A believing man or woman is not bound in such circumstances; God has called us to live in peace. ¹⁶ How do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or, how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?

Bible quotes are NIV unless otherwise noted.

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