

Job Description: A Christian Wife

Reports To: God through Her Local Church as Held Accountable by Her Small Group

Hours Per Week: 168 (Full-Time Position; Monday through Sunday)

Skills / Knowledge / Experience Required

- A personal relationship with Jesus Christ evidenced by daily reliance upon the Holy Spirit, prayer, and Bible intake.
- An accurate, sober self-assessment of strengths and weakness that can be shared without defensiveness (Rom 12:1-3).
- Contentment with God's provision (finances, skills, wife, children, etc...) to provide emotional stability for the family.
- Ability to set the tone of the family to be a positive place of mutual encouragement and sacrifice for one another.
- Guide each member of your household to discover, develop, and deploy their unique gifts in God's service.

Responsibilities

AREA #1: Actively Pursue the Personal Character Necessary to Sustain a Healthy Marriage. Every Christian is to be marked by the traits that Galatians 5:22-23 calls the "Fruit of the Spirit." *Pursuing these character traits is the moral obligation and sign of true conversion for every Christian.* These qualities are necessary for a healthy marriage and should never have to be "demanded" by your spouse. Your spouse is only the recipient of a blessing flowing from your imitation of God in these ways.

Passive Distortion (Your Tendency)	Fruit of the Spirit (Standard of "Healthy")					Aggressive Distortion (Your Tendency)				
-5 -4 -3 -2 -1	Love	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5				
-5 -4 -3 -2 -1	Joy	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5				
-5 -4 -3 -2 -1	Peace	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5				
-5 -4 -3 -2 -1	Patience	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5				
-5 -4 -3 -2 -1	Kindness	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5				
-5 -4 -3 -2 -1	Goodness	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5				
-5 -4 -3 -2 -1	Faithfulness	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5				
-5 -4 -3 -2 -1	Gentleness	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5				
-5 -4 -3 -2 -1	Self-Control	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5				

AREA #2: Actively Pursue the Marks of Christian Relationships for Your Marriage. God's call for how Christians relate to one another should be most clearly seen in marriage. *Marriage should be the example of Christian friendship, not the exception.* When you take the actions described below you are fulfilling your Christian duty not "going the extra mile."

Command	Reference	My Strength	My Weakness	Important to Spouse
Accept One Another	Romans 15:7			
Admonish One Another	Colossians 3:16			
Bear One Another's Burdens	Galatians 6:2			
Build Up One Another	Romans 14:19			
Confess to One Another	James 5:16			
Encourage One Another	Hebrews 3:13			
Be Honest with One Another	Colossians 3:9			
Honor One Another	Romans 12:10			
Serve One Another	Galatians 5:13			
Spur On One Another	Hebrews 10:24			

AREA #3: Fulfill Shared Responsibilities of Marriage Not Pertaining to Gender Roles. There is much more to a Christian marriage than gender roles – headship and submission. Paul introduces his famous passage on genders roles (Eph. 5:22-33) with a preface calling for every believer to examine their life systems (Eph. 5:15-21). While it is the responsibility of the husband to ensure a couple answers these questions, either spouse (or both) may bear the responsibility of primary oversight of these areas.

“Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise, but as wise...” (v. 15)

- **Finances:** Do you have a monthly family budget that keeps up with all income and expenses? Do you have a system for saving for significant future expenses?
- **Household Logistics:** Do you have a list of daily, weekly, and periodic tasks necessary to operate your household? Do you have shared expectations about each other's available time, skills, and interest?

“Making the best use of the time, because the days are evil...” (v. 16)

- **Time:** Do your expectations for yourself and your spouse fit within a 168-hour week? Do you regularly evaluate your use of time to ensure you are living your priorities as life changes?

“Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is...” (v. 17-18)

- **Daily Decisions:** Do you have shared moral values and family goals to guide your decision making?

“Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ” (v. 21)

- **Attitude and Lordship:** Do I blame or resent my spouse for having to meet the requirements of a Christian husband or wife? Do I view my joy in blessing my spouse as a primary way that I disciple and guard the heart of my spouse?

AREA #4: Fulfill Your Unique Gender-Calling to Represent Christ in Your Family. A wife is to be well-suited helper to her husband who cultivates a godly home in which each member of her family is encouraged towards fulfilling God's purpose in their life. This care should be empowered by and encourage the full expression of her multi-faceted competence, passions, and gifts.

	Reference	My Strength	My Weakness	My Spouse's Desire
Well-Suited Helper	Genesis 2:18			
Woman of Competence	Proverbs 31			
Cultivating a Godly Home	Titus 2:3-5			