

DAY 1

Monday 1 September



International **Marriage week** SA
1-7 SEPTEMBER 2014
Brought to you by **intimacy 4us** & **1Life**

ROLES IN MARRIAGE

- THE HUSBAND AS 'SERVANT-LEADER'

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Welcome to day one of the Marriage Week programmes. We believe that you and your husband will move forward in leaps and bounds with these marriage courses. Read through it together, discuss it out loud and give each other space for differing opinions and feedback.

Roles in a marriage is part of God's order so that two people can support each other and work together to live happily. We are discussing 7 roles in this course: the first few days will discuss the husband's role, and the last few days will discuss the wife's roles.

In life we all have roles that we must adopt in order to be successful. A husband that works during the day as a marketer and in the afternoon coaches his son's rugby team, has at least two roles during the course of his day. During office hours, his role is that of marketer and on the rugby field he is a coach.

In the same manner, a husband must adopt several different roles within a marriage. In some situations he will have to be a 'servant-leader' (one of the roles he will have to adopt). In other situations he will have to adopt the role of 'protector'. The other two roles that he may be required to adopt in certain situations is that of 'friend' and 'lover'.

Success, however, starts when he lay down his own life (Eph 5:25; Phil 2:3-4) and becomes more and more efficient in each of his four roles. With this we mean that he is prepared to shift his own needs aside so that he can successfully adopt a specific role at any given moment that may be required of him.

Some situations in a marriage may require the husband to adopt the role of servant-leader. This requires of him to take physical, spiritual or emotional leadership, dependent on the situation. To take on servant leadership implies that a husband inspires, motivates, mobilises and respects his wife and children in a participating manner without threatening, forcing or manipulating them or being bossy.

It also requires the following:

Physically:

- That a husband helps with tasks in and around the house.
- That he repairs broken things.
- ... (if you or your wife can think of anything else you can add it here)

Emotional:

- That a husband cherishes his wife in a manner that she likes, especially if she is emotional.
- That he talks with his wife before making decisions.
- ... (if you or your wife can think of anything else you can add it here)

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Spiritual:

- That a husband regularly prays with his wife.
- That he regularly discusses spiritual matters with her.
- That he holds Bible Study or Devotionals with her.
- (if you or your wife can think of anything else you can add)

(Complete e-Course "Negative Thoughts or God's Thoughts for your Marriage" available at www.beterverhoudings.co.za)

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION (tonight)

Discuss these questions with your partner tonight. Remember, you don't have to agree about everything. Allow some room for differing opinions and listen to each other's hearts.

- Which one of these suggestions that can constitute to this role stands out the most for you and how do you see it being realised within your own marriage?

ACTION PLAN

Use this space to summarise your plan of action for the way forward.

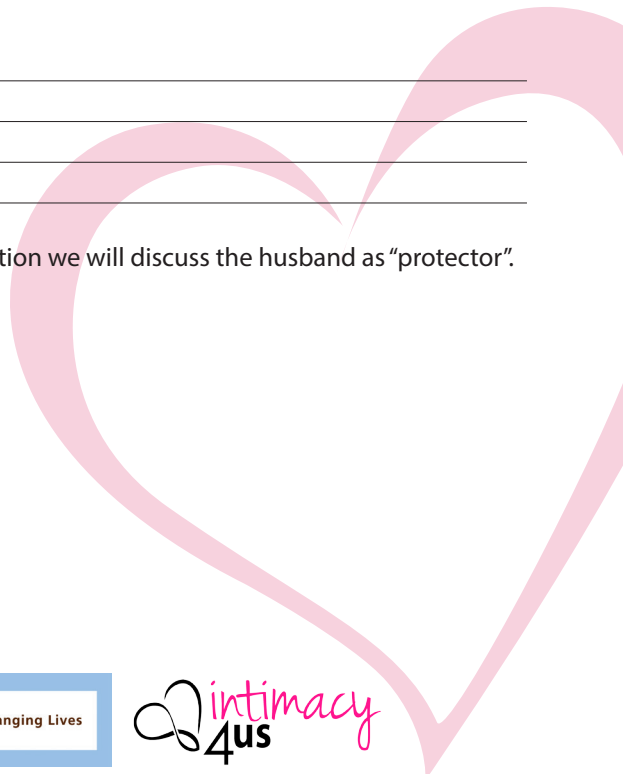
BIBLE STUDY

Read this Bible verse in a few Bible translations and write down what impacts you the most. Discuss what you wrote down with your partner.

- Eph. 5:23
- Col. 3:19
- 1Pet. 3:7
- 1Tim. 5:8
- Josh. 24:15

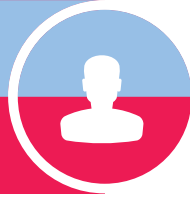
Tomorrow you will get day two's section of this short course. In tomorrow's section we will discuss the husband as "protector".

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DAY 2

Tuesday 2 September



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ROLES IN MARRIAGE

- THE HUSBAND AS 'PROTECTOR'

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In any marriage there isn't a so-called boss or person of more importance. God sees everyone as equals without making differentiations (Col. 3:11). Roles in marriage are instituted by God so that the functioning of two people within a marriage flows smoothly. For this reason, a marriage is about equal participation and support so that two people can live happily together. Some situations within a marriage will require the husband to adopt the role of protector. This requires a husband to be physically, spiritually and emotionally protective in a manner that she prefers.

It also requires the following:

- That a husband allows his wife to discuss what bothers her, threatens her or makes her feel uncertain or scared without him arguing with her about it.
- That he chooses her side over that of other people. He can lovingly express his disagreements when they are alone.
- That he makes her feel like she is the one and only woman for him (in a manner that she prefers).
- ... (if you or your wife can think of anything else you can add it here)

(Complete e-Course on the differences between men and women available at www.beterverhoudings.co.za)

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QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION (tonight)

Discuss these questions with your partner tonight. Remember, you don't have to agree about everything. Allow some room for differing opinions and listen to each other's hearts.

- Which one of these suggestions that can constitute to this role stands out the most for you and how do you see it being realized within your own marriage?

ACTION PLAN

Use this space to summarise your plan of action for the way forward.

BIBLE STUDY

Read this Bible verse in a few Bible translations and write down what impacts you the most. Discuss what you wrote down with your partner.

- Gen. 2:15
- 1Pet. 3:7

Tomorrow you will get day three's section of this short course. In tomorrow's section we will discuss the husband as 'friend'.

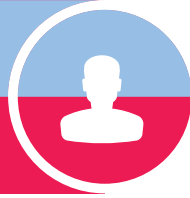
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DAY 3

Wednesday 3 September



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ROLES IN MARRIAGE

- DEALING CORRECTLY WITH DISAPPOINTMENTS

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There are situations in a marriage that will require a husband to adopt his role as friend.

It requires the following:

- That a husband will criticize or attack his wife less, will minimise his advice and correct her less. He must also be less defensive and minimise his reasoning when she just wants to talk with him as a friend.
- As a friend a husband will rather initiate discussion sessions during which he shows interest in his wife's point of view, discover her life experiences and learn to enjoy them.
- This role asks of a husband to identify and regularly enjoy joint activities that are fun.
- Lastly, it's about a husband that ensures that he and his wife identify shared interests and goals that they can enjoy together.
- ... (if you or your wife can think of anything else you can add it here)

(Complete e-Course on how to process disappointments available at www.beterverhoudings.co.za)

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QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION (tonight)

Discuss these questions with your partner tonight. Remember, you don't have to agree about everything. Allow some room for differing opinions and listen to each other's hearts.

- Which one of these suggestions that can constitute to this role stands out the most for you and how do you see it being realised within your own marriage?

ACTION PLAN

Use this space to summarise your plan of action for the way forward.

BIBLE STUDY

Read this Bible verse in a few Bible translations and write down what impacts you the most. Discuss what you wrote down with your partner.

- 1 Pet. 3:7
- Prov. 31:28
- James. 1:19
- Eph. 4:29
- Prov. 16:24

Tomorrow you will get day four's section of this short course. In tomorrow's section we will discuss the husband as "lover".

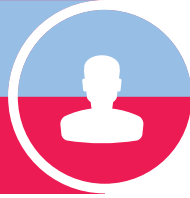
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DAY 4

Thursday 4 September



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ROLES IN MARRIAGE

- THE HUSBAND AS A 'LOVER'

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There are situations within a marriage that will require a husband to adopt the role of lover.

This requires a husband to make an effort in trying to identify and learning to satisfy his wife's romantic and sexual needs and desires.

It also requires the following:

- That a husband on occasion spoils his wife with something romantic like a bubble bath that he specially prepared for her.
- That he occasionally surprises her with something romantic like a picnic at a special place.
- That he occasionally unexpectedly lets her know that he loves her.
- That he discusses their sexual relationship.
- That he occasionally asks her what she enjoys sexually.
- That he makes an effort with the foreplay part of their sexual relationship.
- ... (if you or your wife can think of anything else you can add it here.)

(Another great variety of keys in the e-Course 'Keys to a Fantastic Marriage' available at www.beterverhoudings.co.za)

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QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION (tonight)

Discuss these questions with your partner tonight. Remember, you don't have to agree about everything. Allow some room for differing opinions and listen to each other's hearts.

- Which one of these suggestions that constitute to this role stands out the most for you and how do you see it being realized within your own marriage?

ACTION PLAN

Use this space to summarise your plan of action for the way forward.

BIBLE STUDY

Read this Bible verse in a few Bible translations and write down what impacts you the most. Discuss what you wrote down with your partner.

- Eccl. 9:9
- Prov. 5:18-19

Tomorrow you will get day five's section of this short course. In tomorrow's section we will discuss the wife as 'supportive partner'.

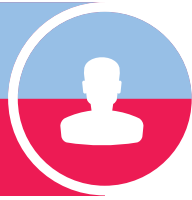
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DAY 5

Friday 5 September



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ROLES IN MARRIAGE

- THE WIFE AS 'SUPPORTIVE PARTNER'

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Just like a husband's success starts when he lay down his life, a wife's success also starts at the same time and in the same manner (Eph. 5:25; Phil. 2:3), everyday becoming more and more proficient in each of her three roles. By this we mean that she is prepared to set her own needs aside so that she can successfully fulfill her role at any given moment.

There are situations within a marriage that will require the wife to abundantly help her husband physically, emotionally and spiritually, that she admires and encourages him in a manner that he likes. In this way she will help him to become a winner in every way possible. This also means that she shares his dreams and ideals and help's him carry the load of responsibilities and responds with love and understanding to the way he approaches and does things.

It requires the following:

Physically:

- That a wife regularly asks her husband how she can help with his daily responsibilities.
- That she manages the home in a peaceful manner.
- ... (if you or your wife can think of anything else you can add it here.)

Emotional:

- That a wife doesn't try to change her husband.
- That she trusts him and supports him when he makes decisions.
- That she gives him recognition in a manner that he likes.
- That she doesn't criticize him.
- That she is positive about his plans.
- That she respects and motivates him.
- ... (if you or your wife can think of anything else you can add it here.)

Spiritual:

- That a wife asks her husband for his prayer requests.
- ... (if you or your wife can think of anything else you can add it here.)

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QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION (tonight)

Discuss these questions with your partner tonight. Remember, you don't have to agree about everything. Allow some room for differing opinions and listen to each other's hearts.

- Which one of these suggestions that constitutes to this role stands out the most for you and how do you see it being realized within your own marriage?

ACTION PLAN

Use this space to summarise your plan of action for the way forward.

BIBLE STUDY

Read this Bible verse in a few Bible translations and write down what impacts you the most. Discuss what you wrote down with your partner.

- Gene. 2:18
- Prov. 12:4
- Prov. 31
- Eph. 5:22-24
- 1Cor. 11:3
- 1Pet. 3:1-4
- Col. 3:18

Tomorrow you will get day six's section of this short course. In tomorrow's section we will discuss the wife as 'fun partner'.

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DAY 6

Saturday 6 September



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ROLES IN MARRIAGE

- THE WIFE AS 'FUN PARTNER'

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Some situations in a marriage requires a wife to adopt her role as the fun partner. This requires a wife to become her husband's best friend and biggest admirer. This includes sharing in the enthusiasm of each other's joint ideals and dreams and to initiate fun and excitement in a manner that he likes.

It also includes the following:

- That a wife sometimes surprises her husband with the things that he enjoys.
- That she initiates fun activities such as eating out, catching fish, having a picnic or attending a motor show and sport activities.
- That she talks to him about what makes him laugh and happy.
- That she avoids criticism and negativity and tries to be positive.
- That she occasionally initiates an opportunity for them to be "naughty".
- That she enjoys his circle of friends and at times allow him to spend time with them.
- That she sometimes wears the clothes that he likes.
- ... (if you or your wife can think of anything else you can add it here.)

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QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION (tonight)

Discuss these questions with your partner tonight. Remember, you don't have to agree about everything. Allow some room for differing opinions and listen to each other's hearts.

- Which one of these suggestions that constitute to this role stands out the most for you and how do you see it being realized within your own marriage?

ACTION PLAN

Use this space to summarise your plan of action for the way forward.

BIBLE STUDY

Read this Bible verse in a few Bible translations and write down what impacts you the most. Discuss what you wrote down with your partner.

- Prov. 18:22
- Jam. 1:19
- Eph. 4:29
- Prov. 16:24
- Prov. 21:19
- Prov. 5:18-19
- Eccl. 9:9

Tomorrow you will receive day seven's section of this short course. In tomorrow's section we will discuss the wife as "lover".

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DAY 7

Sunday 7 September



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ROLES IN MARRIAGE

- THE WIFE AS 'LOVER'

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Some situations in a marriage will require a wife to adopt the role of lover.

It requires a wife to enthusiastically participate in romantic and sexual activities and in that manner, help to build and exciting, intimate relationship.

It requires the following:

- That a wife is creative when it comes to sex.
- That she initiates sex sometimes.
- That she talks to her husband about their sexual relationship.
- That she 'enjoys' him a way that he likes.
- That she will be fun in their sexual relationship.
- That she unexpectedly kisses him in a way that he likes.
- ... (if you or your wife can think of anything else you can add it here.)

(Comprehensive e-Course on spiritual growth and spiritual connections within a marriage available at www.beterverhoudings.co.za)

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QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION (tonight)

Discuss these questions with your partner tonight. Remember, you don't have to agree about everything. Allow some room for differing opinions and listen to each other's hearts.

- Which one of these suggestions that constitute to this role stands out the most for you and how do you see it being realized within your own marriage?

ACTION PLAN

Use this space to summarise your plan of action for the way forward.

BIBLE STUDY

Read this Bible verse in a few Bible translations and write down what impacts you the most. Discuss what you wrote down with your partner.

- Titus 2:4-5
- Hos. 5:10-16
- 1Cor. 7:1-9

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