

To the Holiness of the Bride

Here is a list of things my wife does in the godly role of homemaker. I think it's just about complete, but of course could expand in the future. It would never cross my mind to take her out of that role, unless we were faced with homelessness, and had also exhausted all other options. The woman's role of homemaker is immeasurably valuable:

- 1: Clean the home
- 2: Cook meals on the weekdays (I usually cook weekends or holidays)
- 3: Homeschool the kids (no mean feat), otherwise look after them, take them to the doctor
- 4: Bear and give birth to the children that the Lord our God gives us
- 5: Shop for food and housing needs
- 6: Do most hands-on work for large purchases such as home and car
- 7: Keep our finances in line, do the taxes
- 8: Do most hands-on work in having repairmen over
- 9: Do most hands-on work for any litigation that might occur
- 10: Do various kinds of research, be it for a trip we'd like to take or something we think we need. When I regularly did travel writing, she helped me immensely with research for most articles because of her Chinese language skills.
- 11: Do volunteer translating for a ministry (with a bit of my help), occasionally join me for pro-life work
- 12: Learn to make stuff (a work in progress) with the sewing machine
- 13: Translate for me when I do Bible reading, witnessing, apologetics for her parents, or for Chinese-speaking friends
- 14: Spend time with scripture reading and prayers (with some of my guidance of course), witness to personal friends (also with some of my guidance)
- 15: Keep her husband fantastically happy ☺

Now if that's not a full-time job and if that's not work, then I don't know what is. If it's not valuable, then nothing is. I do want to reiterate that this work as a homemaker is in obedience to biblical instruction, as is bearing and raising children. To some ears that statement is a great put down. But to those of us who believe in the word of God, it is a great honor. I honor my wife to say it. Furthermore, you're not going to find among the above activities any teaching over adult men, because God forbids that to women. My wife teaches her children, or her female friends. She does not break scripture to teach men. This may be the year 2013, but obeying God is still doable. You can trust in that.