

Ways that my Wife Helps Me

As I sit down to write this simple piece, I just got an excellent haircut and near professional beard trim from my wife. And I feel good. About a quarter inch buzz on the hair, and an inch on the beard, the latter mostly by hand. How fitting for writing an essay on ways that my wife helps me in life. Or should I say: how my helpmate helps me. That's because being a helpmate is not just fundamental to the wife's role, but to the woman's nature as well. God made her to be man's helpmate. (Genesis 2:18) God did not just assign her to be a helpmate for man. He MADE her to be a helpmate for him. A woman is awesomely designed to help her man. It is in her body, soul and spirit.

I [wrote a piece](#) years ago on the many tasks that my wife does as a homemaker from the home. This was primarily to show the value of homemaking. However, in a sense what she does in the home could fit into this essay as well, as ALL her work is a great help to me. However, I want to focus on how her work and behavior helps me, not just how useful it is. The role of the helper is biblical, and it is valuable and should be honored. In the current secular and feminist society, which sadly includes many professed Christians, the wife's role as a helper is scorned and even irrationally denied. Yet that is the role of the wife, something that even non-Christian societies recognized for thousands of years through nature. I want you to see how valuable it is, as well as get a clear look at it.

To start with, everything my wife does is a help to me as a husband, even her most basic role. The simple fact that she bears my children, cares for them and teaches them, is immeasurably important. It is a life giving and life preserving role. It also helps train children in godliness, especially when they are young, and give them a Christian environment, something secular schools and daycares would not do. I can't think of anyone else I would turn my children over to than my wife. Caring for the home, as the Christian wife is called to do is also of great importance. It allows me to worry about other things, whether work or ministry, and makes sure the house feels like a home. It fills the home up with warmth and softness that a woman brings. It makes sure visitors have a welcome, and food prepared. It provides neighbors and church friends a welcome as well. These are all things I either could not provide, or could not do as well. My stronger and harder words are balanced out in my wife, who is quiet and gentle and beautiful. Her welcome is a warmer one than any man could provide. God made it that way.

She also provides very direct help to me. A wife, in that sense, is almost literally like an assistant. My wife has helped immensely on a number of projects I do. She has done research for me when I needed her Chinese language skills, and has done translating for me when sharing the Word of God. She has helped immensely in finding a house to buy or rent, and has often saved us money that way. Save anyone money and they will really appreciate you; more so a husband. When I am too busy to make appointments, she makes them for me. When I need her to pick up

something for the house or my job, she finds it at the store as soon as she is able. Then we could talk about all the things she reminds me of that I would have forgotten. And did I mention the haircuts?

In terms of pure pleasure, perhaps nothing beats having regular home cooked meals. My wife shops for food, keeps ingredients for our meals in the home, and prepares a delicious assortment of dishes regularly. She also makes sure I have lunch ready to go in the morning when I go to work. It's a relief to look forward to a good lunch when you are working hard. I have that every day, except when I am fasting. Family, friends and acquaintances also get to enjoy the food when they visit, as she is almost always ready to prepare it. Other people actually get jealous it's so good. It also helps greatly to have her there when I am sick or injured. My wife helps with my back when it is going bad, and picks up medicine when I need it. Caring for the sick is as basic to a woman's nurturing side as anything in the world. A woman has a natural gift in it.

The woman's submission itself is a help to her man. My wife's submission helps me in that it makes me better lead the home and family. Her submission makes sure I can make decisions in peace. It makes sure I do not have to view leadership as constantly putting down conflict. It makes me feel like a king also, something that any good woman can do for her man. Her submission helps him to see his rightful role better, and to do it better. We don't really need angry leaders who are worried their subjects will lash out at them or refuse to follow them. Rather, we need leaders who can lead in peace, with wisdom and a sincere love and appreciation of their subjects. My wife's peaceful submission helps me do that, and that would be the same in any home. A man should feel like a king. It helps him to be a good one.

The wife's submission further helps a man by being a silent example of how we all must submit to God or to earthly authorities. My wife certainly sets a good example for me, and I DO learn from it. She hardly raises her voice. She asks respectfully. She gives suggestions, and never tries to tell me what to do. She doesn't try to out-talk me or interrupt me, but waits for me to speak. That silent example is the real way that women in the Church teach men. 1 Peter 3 is the most unique description of that in the Bible. She teaches without words. True, men are not called to be as soft as women, we have our points where we must be hard, yet we need to have that same meekness toward God in giving ourselves over to His rule in our life. A woman who humbles herself before her man helps the man humble himself before God. Ultimately, he should be on his knees before the Almighty daily. On his knees before God he will best rule his family.

That meek modest heart I speak about also means she is especially beautiful. My wife's beauty helps me too. Any woman should want to help her man that way. A beauty which reflects the light of God and which reflects a pure heart provides a man a picture of what we should work for as men: a picture of a redeemed people. The pure, holy Bride of Christ. A picture of the hope of humanity led by our Lord Jesus. A man works and sacrifices for the kingdom. The wife's beauty is a vision of redeemed mankind in that kingdom. That's yet another way in which the woman is designed as a helper, not merely told to be one: God made her to be the beautiful one. He didn't

do that for the men. In fact, God thought to cover up the man's face with hair. He made woman the beautiful one, as she will portray the beauty of his holy Bride. She will give hope to her husband, and help him this way. A husband should see the humble and pure Bride of Christ in his meek and submissive wife.

It is interesting that vanity seems to be a woman's greatest vice. Some women go out of their way to pretend to be goddesses, or to dress and make themselves up like they're the latest diva. Others find ways to put down others, less directly than a man perhaps, but often more cruelly, heartlessly and cold. The carnal nature of woman leans toward vanity. However, you will notice how a woman who learns meekness and submission, is actually the one that God gifts with beauty. Not the other way around. The meek woman will have the spiritual beauty that no hair stylist in the world could even touch. A spiritual beauty that nothing could ever take away. The woman of quietness and submission radiates peace in the Holy Spirit and she radiates light. That is beautiful. But it did not come from puffing herself up. It came from lowering herself, learning meekness, and submission to her husband. A woman's gift to the world through beauty is not in makeup or jewelry or hot pants. It is through modesty and spiritual light. But she must learn submission. Not vanity. As apostle Peter writes, it is the "incorruptible beauty of the gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God." (1 Peter 3:4) Nothing, even sorrow or suffering or death, will ever quench that beauty. It comes from what is eternal.

There are a lot of emotional and negative reactions to the plain simple truth about women as helpers to their men. Yet that reaction is not from God. It goes against what God teaches us in His Word and it goes against the natural order that God has put into play in our design. To reject that the wife is her husband's helper is to get things backward. Some will say they can be happy living their lives that way, but it is still wrong and destructive to do things backward. I could drive to Texas backward, for example, but I don't think I ever will. It's just better and safer to do it facing forward. God's rule in marriage has an order. The man is the leader. The woman his gentle and meek helper. I cannot even imagine what I would do without my own wife's help in my life. That includes all she does in our family, our community and our church. She is, in some respects, like my left hand and my right. The surrounding culture considers the way I talk an insult. But really it is an honor. I could never stop praising her. As I sit here and write, with my wife giving our children baths and reading them the Bible before bed, with some beautiful flowers on the table that my wife and older daughter picked, I know there are some things women should do, because they are simply better at it. The same God that gave us our instructions, is the same God that designed us. The woman is a beautiful helper.