

HUSBAND AS HEAD OF THE WIFE

By Matt Williams/VP Promise University

My son was once asked in the presence of both my wife and myself: "Who is the head of your home?" My son, only six at the time, really had to think about that question. He looked at his mother, then at me. He looked again at his mother—and back at me. I was feeling pretty embarrassed at this point and wanted to answer for him: "ME of course!" But I knew I had to hear his answer to see how I was doing in my leadership role. He answered, "My daddy...and my mommy sometimes too!" How honest can you get? Did that mean I was generally louder than my wife when barking out commands and orders and he perceived those actions as being in charge? Did his six-year-old mind believe that my leadership skills were better than his mommy's because I was physically bigger? Or, did he really pick up on that fact that his dad and mom both wanted to provide a home atmosphere that would nurture and protect him? I really don't know what his answer meant. However, it made me stop and think. What does it really mean to be the "head" of the home? Here are a

couple of the observations from my study.

In 1 Corinthians 11:3, God's message through the Apostle Paul is very clear to the men of the home: "Now, I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man and the head of Christ is God." Pretty straight forward stuff, huh?

Let's change the first part of the first line into a question: "Now I want you to ask yourself is Christ the head of your life?" Our ultimate goal cannot be to be the best husband, father, leader, employee or good steward. Our goal must be to be all that Christ would want us to be. Because if that's our goal, then we will be operating under His direction, instruction and guidance and fulfilling each of those roles to His glory.

If you will allow me to paraphrase the verse this way: "If Christ is in charge of your life, the way God controls things through His Son, then you will be a tremendous leader, lover, protector, guide and friend to your wife."

Where do we begin the first step in this

journey of having Christ as the true "head" of our life so that we'll be the right "head" for our wife? Well, assuming we've already accepted Him into our heart as our Savior; the next step is to get into His Word, the Bible! We begin by accepting His Word as the ultimate guide of our heart, mind, body and soul.

I want to be very practical in showing how I use God's Word to instruct me in my leadership role. I'll just pick one word relating to my relationship with my wife, LOVE. Let's go to the Bible and look at a oneverse example about a husband's love for his wife. Eph 5:33 says; "...each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself and the wife must respect her husband."(NIV) The next step is simple. Ask yourself the verse in question form. Do I love my wife as I love myself? If not, pray that God will soften your selfish heart to show your wife the same concern you have for yourself. Is it easy? NO! Is it worth it? YES! Look at the reward in the second part

Continued on page 23

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