

## **The Value of Being a Good Spouse**

One of the kindest things God did for humans was to institute marriage. Marriage is not a Christian ordinance. It is a general concept for all of mankind (Gen. 2:24). It is the oldest of all earthly institutions.

Let us notice some things of value to every marriage:

**Spiritual help.** There is no greater relationship help in going to heaven than the constant help of a loving mate. It is difficult for one to make it through the strait and narrow passage of life; however a good spouse, who has common values and a common love for God, certainly helps.

One's loyalty to God will be made evident as the husband tries to help his family grow spiritually. It will also be seen as he sets priorities in rearing children to believe in and respect the God of heaven. Spouses with respect for God treat each other with respect. The husband loves his wife as himself; the wife is in subjection to her husband (Ephesians 5:25-33).

**Child-rearing.** Your faith is a great tool to make your family a better one. Children see the faith of parents in action in making good choices, so their faith grows. Parents have the assurance that God will answer their constant prayer for wisdom to guide their children in the right way (James 1:3-5).

**Heirs together.** Husbands and wives are "heirs together for the grace of life" (1 Peter 3:7). No other way in life leads to such blessings. Zacharias and Elizabeth are a good ex-ample: "They were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless" (Luke 1:6).

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