

# AREAS OF COMPLAINT BY HUSBANDS AGAINST WIVES

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Many times conflicts arise in the home because the areas of complains are not being looked into by our partners. This is not supposed to be so. We are supposed to have a listening ear to the complaints and cries of our partners and this will in turn create a peaceful atmosphere in our homes.

In this edition of our publication, we will be looking at the complaints of husbands. In the next edition we will look at the complaints of wives.

## 1. **Uncleanliness and disorderliness**

Every man loves a woman that is tidy and neat, and loves to keep her surroundings neat and tidy. It is important that every woman understand the fact that men are not happy each time they come home and meet the whole house in disarray. God loves a clean environment, and gave laws that encourage and command cleanliness and orderliness.

Every woman that wants her home to be a place of fun and happiness must work on keeping her home and environment clean. Many husbands don't like spending much time at home because the house stinks and smells funny. The house is not conducive because there are too many dirty clothes, dishes and unclean things around. It is the duty of the woman of the house to tidy up the house and make sure that it is clean at all times.

*"One day Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, should I not try to find a home for you, where you will be well provided for? Is not Boaz, with whose servant girls you have been, a kinsman of ours? Tonight he will be winnowing barley on the threshing floor. Wash and perfume yourself, and put on your best clothes. Then go down to the threshing floor, but don't let him know you are there until he has finished eating and drinking".*

*"And now, my daughter, don't be afraid. I will do for you all you ask. All my fellow townsmen know that you are a woman of noble character".*

*"Then Naomi said, "Wait, my daughter, until you find out what happens. For the man will not rest until the matter is settled today." (Ruth 3:1-3, 11, 18 NIV)*

Ruth gained acceptance before Boaz because she presented herself clean to the man. Her character also enhanced her acceptance. Dress clean, wear a perfume to cover body odour, keep your hair and nails clean, make sure your children are also clean, and always keep your house clean.

## 2. **Late preparation of meals and bad service**

A good woman will always make sure that her husband and children eat at the appropriate time. Lazy women are guilty of late preparation of meals. Late preparation of meals introduces the husband to eating out before coming home. When a man has

eating out, eating at home becomes difficult, and this will lead to quarrels. Cook on time to avoid offending your husband. The way to a man's heart, they say, is his stomach.

If you have a function to attend or a service to attend especially in the evenings, make sure you prepare the food and store in the warmer, so when you arrive at night food will be ready. If your husband will come back in your absence, set his food stored in the warmer with his permission, so when he comes back, he will help himself out. In this way peace will reign in the home and there will be no quarrel over food.

Bad service is another problem. The way and manner the food is served causes problem at times. In a man's house, there are many vessels the bible teaches. The value you place on a person or visitor determines the vessel you use and how the person is served. Your husband is your head according to the Bible; therefore, he is the most important human in your life. He should be served with the best vessel you have and to the best of your ability. Be creative in your service.

*"But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work". (2 Tim 2:20-21 NKJV)*

*"Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband". (Eph 5:33 NKJV)*

### **3. Unnecessary suspicion of wives over money matters and opposite sex**

Suspicion rooted in jealousy is dangerous for a healthy marriage. It does not pay to be suspicious of your partner. Nobody likes to be accused or be looked upon to be doing what has never entered his or her mind. Men don't like to be accused of doing what they have not done. You have got to trust your husband that he does not and will not cheat on you.

Trust is the key word in marital stability. You must trust your husband as far as money matters is concerned. It doesn't matter the stories you have heard about the unfaithfulness of some husbands in money matters. Your husband should be allowed to prove himself faithful or unfaithful.

*"Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another". (Eph 4:25 NKJV)*

Husbands be truthful about these matters.

### **4. Making and keeping bad friends**

*"But what I do, I will also continue to do, that I may cut off the opportunity from those who desire an opportunity to be regarded just as we are in the things of which they boast. For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works. (2 Cor 11:11-15 NKJV)*

*“Do not be deceived: ‘Evil company corrupts good habits.’” 1 Cor 15:33 NKJV*

If the Devil can masquerade as an angel of light, then it is easy for trouble makers to befriend someone as a good person. Be careful about who your friends really are. That person that is always telling you “this person is not good”, “be careful of this person and that person”, you really need to ask yourself what he or she wants with you. Be careful of such people.

Men are concerned about who their wife’s friends are. They don’t want people that will corrupt their character and introduce them to things that will create problems for them in their marriage. That is why they always probe into who their wives are getting close to. Be careful and keep away from gossips, slanderers, immoral, abusive and insolent women. This advice will keep you from conflict with your husband.

## **5. Betting with sex and lack of response to romantic approaches**

*“Now for the matters you wrote about: It is good for a man not to marry. But since there is so much immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. The wife’s body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband’s body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife. Do not deprive each other except by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. I say this as a concession, not as a command. I wish that all men were as I am. But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that. (1 Cor 7:1-7 NIV)*

Your body does not belong to you but to your spouse. He or she has right to demand of it anytime there is a desire for it. It is not wise to bet with your sexuality. It is wickedness to tell your husband that he cannot sleep with you until he meets certain needs or grants your request.

Respond to your husband romantically. Don’t pretend or behave as if you don’t enjoy sex with him. Don’t drive your husband outside to find sexual satisfaction. It is your duty to make sure he is satisfied and happy at home. Don’t let another woman play that role for him.

## **6. Love and care for partisan extended family members**

*“If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.” (1 Tim 5:8 NIV)*

Many men complain that their wives segregate along family leanings. When a member of their family comes around, he or she gets special treatment. When any member of the husband’s family comes around, they are treated differently as the husband’s family member and not as hers. If her relative needs money, she will give and pressure the husband to give also, but when the husband’s relative needs money, she will claim she doesn’t have and will complain that his people are collecting too much money.

There should be no division in the home. Relatives should be treated the same way to avoid problem. Both families should be seen as one. There should be no partiality in entertaining relatives and in assisting them when they need help.

## **7. Gossip, backbiting and slander**

*“If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless”. (James 1:26 NIV)*

*“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you”. (Eph 4:29-32 NIV)*

Men don't like gossips because they are afraid that their secrets are not safe. Gossips will bring trouble to the family. And no man wants to have problem with another family. Running other people down will bring curses upon a family and hinder their own progress. It is therefore not good for someone to be gossiping or encouraging gossips, slanderers and backbiters. Repent of this evil if you are involved in it.

## **8. Nagging**

*“Better to live on a corner of the roof than share a house with a quarrelsome wife”. (Prov 25:24 NIV)*

*“Better to live in a desert than with a quarrelsome and ill-tempered wife.” (Prov 21:19 NIV)*

Nagging makes a man sick. It is tiring and destructive. It makes life difficult and marriage to be uninteresting. A nagging woman is like a dripping sore. No man is ever comfortable with a nagging wife. So if you want to keep your marriage, look into this subject of nagging and deliver yourself from it before it will deliver your husband to another woman.

## **9. Stubbornness**

*“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word,” (Eph 5:25-26 NIV)*

*“However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.” (Eph 5:33 NIV)*

The husband is expected by scripture to build and polish the wife up to become what she ought to be by God's and the husband's standard, just as Jesus does to the church. To make this happen, the wife is expected to submit to the husband and respect

the husband. Many women do not accept their husband's view or opinion on a matter. Many do not accept correction, not to talk of adjusting to please the husband as the church adjusts to please Christ.

Stubbornness is not of God, and does not help marriage, but destroys it. Respect and submit to your husband. Don't always insist on your own way. Even when your husband is wrong, don't be confrontational.

## **10. Wastefulness**

*"Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them. Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten." (John 6:10-13 NIV)*

God does not like waste. Jesus commanded his disciples to gather the remaining pieces of bread so that nothing is wasted. The same way, men frown as they see food and other essentials being wasted. Some women don't know how to manage resources at all. Some don't know how to manage money, yet they want to keep the family purse. They are 'wasters' as some men call them. They just buy whatever catches their attention whether it is important or not. Some fail to understand that expenditure has to be prioritized - You buy what is most important for the moment depending on the availability of funds.

Don't be a waster. Manage what you have. Sow your dress according to your cloth, and not according to your size. Don't compete with other women in dressing. Dress according to your means. Manage what you have bearing in mind when the next money is likely to come in. Store food, especially unfinished food in the fridge or freezer. Don't allow them to rot away. The Lord said, "Let nothing be wasted".

## **11. Laziness and time wasting**

*"Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest. How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest -- and poverty will come on you like a bandit and scarcity like an armed man." (Prov 6:6-11 NIV)*

Laziness and time wasting is one of the major things that trouble married men. It is important that every wife wake and take her place in the home and play her role as the manager. Laziness is the root of Uncleanliness that we discussed earlier. Laziness also aids gossiping, because a woman that is busy will not spend her time in idle talk and discussing of people.

Manage your time well so that you don't keep your husband waiting all the time when you have a function to attend together. Learn to dress fast. Start dressing up earlier than the expected time of departure so you can finish before the time. Improve

and don't make excuses. Your appearance is important, but your reputation as a time keeper is more important.

There is a time for everything. Do the right thing at the right time. Manage your time well. Don't postpone what you are supposed to do now to a later time, and don't do now what you are expected to do later.

*"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace." (Eccl 3:1-8 NIV)*

## **12. Lack of understanding and unwillingness to understand**

*"Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?" (Amos 3:3 NKJV)*

When the wife refuses to understand and bear with the husband, there are bound to be problems in that marriage. It is important therefore that wives make effort to understand and show willingness to understand what the husband is doing or saying for peace and progress to reign in the home.

## **13. Ungratefulness to husband's provisions**

*"He who sacrifices thank offerings honors me, and he prepares the way so that I may show him the salvation of God." Ps 50:23-51:1 NIV*

Thanksgiving and appreciation opens the door for more gifts of love to be given. Every human wants to be thanked for whatever he or she does. And that includes you. Be grateful, even when the gift or provision is not up to your expectation. It will encourage him to continue and do more, because he knows that someone is appreciative of his efforts.

## **14. Selfishness**

*"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." (Phil 2:3-4 NIV)*

Selfishness is not good in marriage. When a woman is only interested in herself and her family, there is already a problem in the marriage. When money coming into the hands of the woman is spent on self, there will be crisis in the home. It is therefore very important that wives be not self-centered, but think of collective interest of the family. See yourself as part of the family. Don't look at your husband as someone who will run

away from you tomorrow. Let your own resources go into the upkeep of your family also.

## WORD OF WISDOM

1. **Every relationship is like a building. The beauty, strength, size and durability of that relationship are determined by the foundation upon which the relationship is built.**
2. **Forgiveness strengthens and builds relationship.**
3. **Forgiveness nourishes love.**
4. **Forgiveness helps to heal broken hearts – internal hurts and wounds.**
5. **You can't be one with God and not love.**
6. **Any man or woman who claims to be born again, but wants to caress and even have sex with you before marriage is not a converted Christian. You will have problem with that person if you marry him or her.**
7. **Anyone you are in relationship with or drawing close to you, and is always showing signs of boredom with spiritual things like studying the word of God, Praying, fasting and evangelism either by words or action is not totally converted. You will have problem with such.**
8. **Anyone who is comfortable and more comfortable in the presence of sinners, those who speak against Ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the work of God, (the rebellious) is not fit for you to marry.**