

# AREAS OF COMPLAINTS BY WIVES AGAINST HUSBANDS

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In our last edition, we discussed the areas of complaints by husbands against wives. In this edition, we will be looking at the things the wives are complaining about. I urge you to go through this material with an open heart if you wish to make your home a happy one.

Many times, we are not listening to each other in our relationships, and this compounds and complicates problems that would have been treated with dispatch, and keep the peace in the home. My desire is to confront you the husband with some of the things that your wife may have been complaining about, and you have never taken serious for reasons best known to you.

Marriage can be a pleasant and sweet experience or a sad and regretful adventure, depending on how we handle the little problems that come up from time to time. Success to a large extent depends on our ability to listen to one another and make corrections when and where necessary. Listen to your wife through this publication.

## **1. Insufficient provision for the family.**

*"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)*

*"To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you." Gen 3:16 NIV*

The responsibility of providing for the family is on the husband and father of the home. The wife however is to support the husband if she is working and earning money. It is important that all husbands understand that headship of the home implies that the man should provide for his household. When a man is not doing that, he is regarded as an unbeliever. In other words it is not expected of a believing husband to abandon this responsibility.

It is very important that husbands understand that the cost of living is always changing; as a result, more money will be required to run the house. So when your wife is making demands for more money, try and understand and respond to her. Don't wait to be asked before you make available the necessities of life to members of your family.

Ask yourself, if you were your wife; will you be able to manage successfully the same money you normally give to her? Will it be enough? What you know you cannot do, don't expect it from your wife.

## **2. Insufficient attention, communication and concern.**

*"Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord," (Eph 5:19 NIV)*

*“Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers. Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.” (1 Peter 3:7-8 NIV)*

One thing I have come to understand about women is that they want attention. They never seem to have it enough. It is also true that men most times like to be with their male friends rather than spend time with their wives. Some are consumed by their work and career. One lady declared, ‘he is married to his job’. It is important that men spend time with their wives. In the first place, marriage is for companionship and friendship. Naturally, women like attention, care and petting. Therefore, it is important that husbands find time to be with their wives. Make time for this to make your wife happy.

It is also important that wives realize that the men may not be able to give as much time as they would have loved to be given, because of their jobs. Do not be over demanding of your husband’s time. Be considerate about this matter. This is not a license for husbands to be far from their wives. Do your best to give attention to your wife and family.

Do not hide things from your wife. It causes problems. Secrecy is dangerous to a happy and stable family. Half information is worse than no information. Make sure you’re well understood and you do not withhold vital information from your wife. If she finds out that you are doing that, there will be trouble.

Prove to her by your actions that you care. Many women always feel insecure. It is very important that you show enough concern to kill the fear of insecurity, and make her know she has got someone who cares and who will always stand by her side with her.

### **3. Lack of appreciation for the labours and provisions made by the wife.**

*“But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy.” (2 Tim 3:1-3 NIV)*

Appreciation motivates a man to more action. Every body, especially women, loves to be appreciated. Appreciation is a sign that her contributions are noted as a big contribution to the well being of the family. This will encourage her to do more. The absence of it kills her zeal. Encourage your wife by appreciating her always. Don’t neglect appreciation because you think she is just doing her duty as a wife. Even the hireling wants to be appreciated though he will be paid for the job. You too as a husband and as a worker in the office want to be appreciated. Appreciate your wife.

Appreciate her for her cooking, doing the dishes, laundry, keeping the house clean and beautiful, and caring for you, the children and visitors to the house.

### **4. Leaving the disciplinary job of the children to the wife.**

*“He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect.” (1 Tim 3:4 NIV)*

Raising the children should not be left for the wife alone simply because the man works. The mother can never play the role of the father. It is therefore important that every man settles down and raises his children the way he wants them raised. Most children take their mothers for granted when they give instructions to them, but they respect their father's instruction more than that of their mother. This may be as a result of the fact that they are used to playing with their mother. So every instruction is like one of those play time.

#### **5. Excessive demands for sex resulting to unwanted pregnancies and overbearing of children.**

*"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." (1 Cor. 7:2-7 NIV)*

*"Treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God-" (2 Tim 3:4-5 NIV)*

The demand for sex has been proven to be more in men than in women. It is important that women understand this and bear with their husbands. Men in turn should understand why the women sometimes would not want to have sex. Tiredness, sickness, stress, unwanted pregnancy and unsettled mind are some of the things that make it impossible for the wives to want to have sex when the husbands are interested.

It is also important that husbands understand that sex produces pregnancy. It isn't right for you as a Christian to think of abortion. It is viewed as murder. Family planning for safe sex should be practiced. When this is done, the wife will be disposed to enjoy sex with the husband.

#### **6. Love for extended family members more than wife.**

*"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh." (Gen 2:24 NIV)*

The scripture commands that the husband should leave his family and cleave to his wife and become one with her. The husband is therefore expected to see the wife as his priority and not the family where he comes from. When a man or woman shows more affection and concern for his or her family members than his or her spouse, it means that such a one has not understood the meaning of marriage.

When you as a man change your perspective to marriage and take on God's mindset about it, things will work well in your marriage. Your wife is your first assignment. Please her first and every other thing will fall in line.

#### **7. Mistrust on wife over monetary matters and the opposite sex relationship.**

*“Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. For, “Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.” (1 Peter 3:8-12 NIV)*

Why marry someone you cannot trust? It is important that you trust your spouse for peace and harmony to reign in the home. Doubting your spouse’s integrity in money and relationship matters is dangerous for the continuous existence of peace and harmony in your home. No one likes to be distrusted, even you. If you deserve to be trusted, trust your spouse. Until you catch your spouse in the real act, don’t believe he or she is involved in anything shady and evil. Don’t listen to what people tell you about your spouse until it is proved.

Relating with someone you don’t trust is an uphill task. When a man begins to suspect the wife is playing around with another man, that marriage is almost gone because the house will be on fire. The fire of jealousy is difficult to put out when it is intensively burning. Never let that fire start burning. That is the safest thing to do. When distrust is permitted, the love and the heart of the one being distrusted is being deeply wounded by each experience, and the one distrusting is building a stronghold that will be difficult to pull down. Work with facts and not suspicion.

## **8. No consultation before final decision-making.**

*“Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.” Prov. 15:22  
NIV*

*“Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of one’s friend springs from his earnest counsel.” (Prov. 27:9 NIV)*

It is true that the husband as the head of the home has the final say on issues, it is important that your wife be consulted and intimated about matters before final decisions are made. This will make your wife to feel belong and important in the marriage. After all, she is supposed to be your best friend. When she is not involved she feels like she is being treated like a piece of furniture in the house. Get your wife involved, it will strengthen the bond of love and unity in your home.

## **9. Not minding the little things that matter in a woman’s life.**

Women like a man that pays attention to everything about them, including the irrelevant things. They like to be petted. They love attention. So if your are the type that is not paying attention, your wife will definitely complain or grumble over it. Be concerned about what she is concerned about. Mind what she minds. “Thank you” when she does something nice, “sorry” when she complains about how awful she feels, “you are looking good and sweet today” when she wears something that she feels great about, “your hair is looking lovely” each time she does her hair, and “that was a great

meal” after eating her food, are her expectations of you as someone dear to her heart. It is fun. Be part of the fun. Be happy to pour out such words. It will enrich your relationship.

**10. Not caring about the spiritual well being of the family.**

As the head of your home, you are expected to be closer to God than your family members. You are expected to provide not only administrative leadership, but also, provide spiritual leadership. To provide spiritual leadership, you have to be closer to God, and study the Bible more. You are expected to lead your family in the way of God. You must be seen to be in the forefront of the race to heaven. It is wrong for you to be sleeping while your wife and children are praying. It will be wrong for your family to be in church while you are somewhere else. Headship of the home involves spiritual headship. Work on that.

**11. Not caring about seasonal provisions, gifts and compliments.**

Women love clothes and gifts. Just as the way to a man’s heart has been said to be good food, so also gifts to a woman.

*“A gift opens the way for the giver and ushers him into the presence of the great.”  
(Proverbs 18:16 NIV)*

Seasons like Christmas, Easter, Birthdays and important occasions and celebrations are good times to walk into the life of your wife again with a gift. I am not asking you to borrow to do this, but to make it a habit of giving your wife and children things that will make them happy and see you as a caring and loving man. Try it and see how your home will light up with joy and celebration of love.

- Please get them something they will love, or rather give them money to buy what they will love.

**12. Alcoholism and gambling problems.**

Gambling and alcoholism are not supposed to be part of the life of a Christian man, but unfortunately, many are indulging themselves in them and are finding it difficult to come out of it because of the kind of friends they have surrounded themselves with. Money that would have been used to meet the needs of the family, are wasted on alcohol, tobacco and gambling. For a man to come back home almost every night drunk or half drunk is not a good experience for a wife or children in that home. If you’re involved in this kind of life, I encourage and charge you to abandon that way of life and run to Jesus Christ for deliverance and salvation right now. Save yourself before your home will be destroyed. The kind of enjoyment that is killing your home is not a good thing.

**13. Keeping late hours outside.**

Every married man should live his life with the consciousness of the fact that he is married to someone he cares about, and who in turn cares for him, and always looking forward to seeing him every evening and welcome him into her arms. Late hours

are a proof that she does not matter to you. Don't allow your work and friends to take the place of your wife and family.

**14. Showing too much attention to other women.**

Every one has the seed of jealousy in him or her. No man or woman will like the one he or she is married to showing much attention to someone of the opposite sexes without feeling bad and troubled. Do not give your wife reason to start suspecting you to be having an affair with another woman. Don't give her that impression. Don't provoke the spirit of jealousy in her.