A PASTOR’S WIFE’S CALLING

Purpose, Challenges, Responsibility & Power of a Pastor’s Wife
“A Vessel Fit for Use”

• To our theme I add:
• “A Vessel Fit for the Master’s Use”

• Another word for PASTOR is BISHOP
• One who oversees the flock
• If one desires the office of a BISHOP he desires a good WORK

• However, the job has certain qualifications:
• I Timothy 3:1
Introduction

• You are unique; your husband is unique. Your church and congregation has uniqueness. Therefore your purpose and administration will have some unique experiences: strive for the excellence of your high calling, embrace your unique purpose and avoid comparing your ministry’s success with what others have accomplished.

• However, as a pastor’s wife some common goals and experiences we all share. We can hopefully share some common conflicts and challenges to help each other.

• I’ve particularly noticed differing challenges facing
  • The founding pastor and wife;
  • the second generation couple
  • special challenges facing those moving into leadership of those who were your peers and
  • adjustments facing a new pastor or wife assuming the helm from outside.
A Help Meet

• Genesis 2:18-24
• And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.
• And out of the ground the Lord God formed ...Adam
• And the rib...he made a woman and brought her unto the man...and they shall be one flesh
• When God called our husbands to pastor He called us too.
• I recall a 3:00am wake up about 15 years ago
• God not only gave us hands and feet to help our spouse. We can also help with our mind with suggestions and provide him with a woman’s perspective.
• As a Pastor’s wife we will encounter many stressful situations. I like to start my day off with a PRIME start; like some’s coffee it just gets me ready mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually:
As a wife we help a man qualify

- Not only are there specific qualifications for the wife, but many of the qualifications for a Bishop the wife plays an intricate part:

  - Husband of one wife—we need to work to keep our marriage together, functioning and joyful
  - Given to Hospitality
  - Having his children in subjection with all gravity (respect, honesty, in a respectful manner)
  - Not greedy of filthy lucre: we know our husbands desire to please us—don’t be unreasonable or greedy
Prime Start

• 6 am I start my day with:
• P – Prayer, my prayer pillow sits by my bed
• R – Read scripture, Bible on every floor
• I – Intercede on behalf of other’s situations
• M – Meditate & get a direction from the Lord
• E – Exercise, I do my stretches then walk dogs

• By 7am I’m ready to shower & start my day
Examples

• We have some Biblical and modern day examples
• “Mark the perfect for the end of that person is abundant life”

P-A-S-T-O-R’S W-I-F-E
P - Priscilla

- We have Biblical examples of Pastor’s wives where we can use as a pattern of good works:
- Priscilla along with her husband was mighty in the scriptures. So much so that they converted Apollos, Priscilla by scriptures showed that Jesus was Christ...not a preacher but know your Bible
- Acts 18:26 “…Aquila and Priscilla ...expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.”
A - Abigail

A wise woman that saved her whole household
1\textsuperscript{st} Samuel 25:3 - 42
“...wife Abigail and she was a woman of good understanding and of a beautiful countenance”
Her Jewish husband was churlish and evil that men could not reason with
Abigail humbly fell before David & defused a volatile situation with no blood shed. King David remembered her later & sent for her to marry
**S – Shunammite Woman**

- 2 Kings 4:23 ...She said “It shall be well”
- Great faith yields awesome miracles – When her son was dead, she said “It is well” with the child
- After a 3 day fast, I recall traveling with my pastor (Bishop Lee) and witnessing God use my mother to order a prayer circle in the middle of the street in Indiana when a small child, hit by a car lay lifeless in the street. When the man of God laid hands on the child breathe returned to his body and he got up and ran to his mother.
- FAITH: I thank God for the gift of faith
**T - Tabitha**

- Acts 9:36-40 Love for saints manifest by works
- ...at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is Dorcas: woman full of good works and almsdeeds which she did ...When she died...
- All the widows shewing coats and garments which she had made for them... Peter prayed “Tabitha arise”.
- Love is reciprocated
Founding pastors’ wives:
Husband’s goal is to establish a “holy” church in their community. They become “one” in achieving the goal. She played the piano.
Their children were the church members. They taught them and used their musical talents as church musicians.
Husband and all four children died; wife kept church going and growing to this day.
My mother counselled the women and organized the women into 3 groups: prayer partners, missionaries, council.
Lesson in home on timeliness: the one minute bath.
R – Roxie Turner

- Our own Presiding Bishop’s wife is and excellent example of how a wise woman supports her husband and work together.
- Prayer, Praise & Patience: Be a 3P woman
- A song just before he preaches; be one with him
- The church is Olive Branch is an example of a mother instant in prayer for years until her children returned to be a part of the NewBorn Lighthouse Churches
- I personally feel their marriage seminar is second to none.
S - Sanctification

• The office of a church leader also comes with specific qualifications for his wife:
  • 1st Timothy 3
  • Their wives must be:
    • Grave(respectful)
    • Not slanderers
    • Sober
    • Faithful in all things
Titus 2:7

In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,
I – Intercede in Prayer

Ephesians 6:18

• “Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for the saints
Luke 12:42-44

42 And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season?

43 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

44 Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath.
E – Encourage & Edify

2nd Chronicles 35:2

“...encouraged them to the service of the house of the Lord”

Romans 14:19

“Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another”

1 Corinthians 14:12

“Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church”
Soul Winning

Proverbs 11:30
“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life;
• And he that winneth souls is wise.”
• Set goals then get to work, pray without ceasing and let the Lord direct your path.
• What’s the difference between a “wish” and a “goal”?
• A very successful person once told me the difference is a goal has a “Plan and a Schedule”
• Let us be goal oriented and solution minded
CALLING - Titus 2:

• C - Chaste keepers at home
• A - Aged(seasoned), able to teach
• L - Love your husband
• L - Love your children
• I - In behavior as becometh holiness
• N - Not false accusers
• G – Good things to teach the young women
Special Issues Confronting Pastor’s Wives:

A. Respect
   – 1. People disrespecting your husband
      • a. verbal critics
      • b. women with unseemly behavior
   -2. People disrespecting you
      a. love pastor but ignore wife
      b. your husband embarrassing you
   -3. Church reputation
      a. members carrying gossip
         Among themselves
         Outside to unsaved family members
      b. People outside your church
         In other churches
         In the community or among sinners
Special Challenges the Pastor’s Wives Face

B. Faithfulness

– 1. Members being faithful in attendance
– 2. Members being faithful in giving tithes & offerings
– 3. Church officers being faithful to their duties
– 4. Choir members unfaithfulness
– 5. Energy for yourself to be faithful in all things
To fulfill the high calling of a pastor’s wife, we can equip ourselves with some POWER tools:
If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.
2 Chronicles 7:17-18

17 And as for thee, if thou wilt walk before me, as David thy father walked, and do according to all that I have commanded thee, and shalt observe my statutes and my judgments;

18 Then will I stablish the throne of thy kingdom, according as I have covenanted with David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man to be ruler in Israel.
W – Word of God

3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:
4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

OPEN THE BOOK
There is still Power in the Pots

Esther wisely saved her life, Mordecai and all her people by first fasting then preparing two meals fit for the King.

We are to be given to hospitality as Pastor and Wife.

I personally have experienced the value of preparing a satisfying meal and after the man of God is well fed and relaxed, you can ask what you will and he will generally give all within his means.

Fasting: go on a 3 day fast and then ask God for whatever you need and I’ve seen mighty miracles through the power in the name of JESUS:

Deaf and Dumb daughter of the magistrate of Philadelphia spoke “Baptize, baptize” her first words ever spoken

**Matthew 17:21**
Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.
R - Righteousness

Proverbs 14:34
Righteousness exalted a nation: sin is a reproach to any people

James 5:15-16
And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.
Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent PRAYER of a RIGHTOUS man availeth much.
Conclusion: High calling

• Our calling is a high calling
• We must live holy and be living epistles of the Word. As our husbands preach from the pulpit; we teach the same thing in word and with our daily walk. If others want to know how to live holy they should just “Look on us”.
• Given to Hospitality
• Lovers of Good Men(especially our husband)
• Faithful in all things