

3 FOLD CORD

Building Lasting Marriages on a Firm Foundation

Weekly Devotional

WEEK ELEVEN -

Wise Sarah

For instance Sarah obeyed her husband Abraham, and called him her master. You are her daughters when you do what is right without fear of what your husbands might do.

I Peter 3:6 (NLT)

We talked a few weeks ago on the topic of submission. Today let's talk about having faith in God to respond *in* submission in times of difficulty. Often times in marriage, a wife will ponder the question, how can I submit to my husband in times when I don't trust his decisions? When we have endured experiences that have jarred us to the core when our husband has acted independently, or made poor decisions that adversely affected both we, and even the entire family, or even placed us in harm's way in some manner? Good question, but God has the answer!

To give a little background to today's Scripture text, we need to go back to the book of Genesis. Abraham made a decision that put his beloved wife Sarah in great danger, surrendering her to King Abimelech who admired her beauty, endangering *her* life and the promise of God for their future together. (*See Genesis 20) She was more honorable than he, submitting to his plan out of respect for his place of authority as her husband. Scripture tells us that God protected Sarah while she was in the household of the king and brought her safely back to her husband Abraham. Abraham was clearly in the wrong in his actions, but the key to the story is found not in his

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wrongdoing, but in how his *wife responded* in the situation. This is where our Scripture text comes in.

All was well and the situation resolved in peace and safety because Sarah chose both to honor her husband not fearing the outcome of his poor judgment, as well as trust in God, being confident in His salvation. The key was *placing her trust in God*. In times when we may find it difficult to place our trust in our husband, we can *always* place our trust in God.

So, ladies, if your husband is making poor decisions that could bring harm to the family, give him up to God. The Holy Spirit can get through to him much more convincingly than you, even though you've been trying to reason or argue his folly. In taking the right approach you will be blessed by God and experience His love and peace for you. This will work for husbands also, if your wife is being non-cooperative, give her to God and He will make all things right. The key is trusting *God*, and not in our own efforts to bring about compliance.

We can both learn from wise Sarah, that remaining calm in the face of adversity, resisting the pull to defend and protect ourselves, and placing our trust in God is the very best way to restoring peace in difficult situations. We can have the peace that passes all understanding regardless of the circumstance, when we place our trust, and our confidence is in our God.

*You will keep him in perfect peace,
Whose mind is stayed on You,
Because he trusts in You.
Isaiah 26:3 (NKJV)*