Bible Passages for Husbands

Below are some Bible passages that are relevant for husbands to study & meditate upon. Some of these are simply descriptive.¹ Some are prescriptive.²

In the New Testament, in particular, commands are tied to one of three things:

- 1. "Do this" because of what God has done, is doing or will do³
- 2. "Do this" because your relationship with God is more than enough⁴
- 3. "Do this" for the glory of God.⁵

You can see all three of these in the parable of the vine (John 15:1-11).

Below, in the right hand column, you can see summary statements (the larger font) and commentary (the smaller font). In many cases, there is no comment at all because I've chosen to focus more on the material pertaining to husbands than the context.⁶

^{1 &}quot;This is the way it is."

^{2 &}quot;This is the way it ought to be." "Do this!" "Don't do that!"

³ For example, in Ephesians 5:25 the command to love your wife is tied to Christ loving the church. This not only explains the nature of the love (i.e. contra-conditional love) but the resource needed to provide such love (i.e. Christ's provision). Similarly, 1 Peter 2:21-25 describing Christ's work is referred to 'likewise' in 1 Peter 3 describing the wife & husband's role. This connection of indicatives with imperatives (i.e. to use grammatical terms) is critically important in the first principle of a great marriage – Christ centeredness. 2 Peter 1:3-4 are explicit on this point too.

^{4 &}quot;Whom do I have in heaven but you? On earth there are none I desire beside you." Ps.73:25

⁵ God is very motivated to bring glory to himself (1Sam.12:22; Isa.43:7; 48:8ff; Hab.2:14; Jn.14:13) and we are to be similarly motivated (Mat.5:16; Ro.8:18ff; 1Cor.10:31; 1Peter 2:9-12). In fact, at the core of rebellion is refusal to glorify God (Romans 1). This is God's point to David when he sinned – (2 Sam.12:8-9) that he despised God, leading to his sin.

⁶ So, for example, in Genesis 3 I haven't provided summaries or commentary on the parts pertaining to the serpent or the woman.

Genesis 2:18-25 Then the	God wanted Adam to have a partner who fit him.
Lord God said, "It is not good	
for the man to be alone. I will	ezer kenegdo 'a helper that fits him' ⁷
make a helper who is just	
right for him." ¹⁹ So the Lord	
God formed from the ground	So, he made animals and had Adam name them.
all the wild animals and all	
the birds of the sky. He	
brought them to the man to	
see what he would call them,	
and the man chose a name	
for each one. ²⁰ He gave	
names to all the livestock, all	
the birds of the sky, and all	None of them was a fitting partner for him
the wild animals. But still	God's first response was to reveal (vv.19-20) & increase (v.23) Adam's need.
there was no helper just right	
for him. ²¹ So the Lord God	God rendered Adam unconscious, removed tissue from his side and
caused the man to fall into a	·
deep sleep. While the man	closed the wound
slept, the Lord God took out	
one of the man's ribs and	
closed up the opening.	
²² Then the Lord God made a	then God formed the woman from that tissue and brought her to
woman from the rib, and he	, i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i
brought her to the man.	Adam.
²³ "At last!" the man	"Wow! Finally, the one who fits me," is another way to translate this.
exclaimed. "This one is bone	Gen.2:23 the third person reference translated 'this' implies that Adam was not
from my bone, and flesh from	describing but vowing (i.e. 'she is to be one with me' as opposed to 'she is made out
my flesh! She will be called	of my tissues').
'woman,' because she was	This last sentence in v.23 is in passive voice. So, it may be that it is God, not Adam
taken from 'man.'"	providing the name eeshaw ('isha) as a derivative of the name for man eesh ('ish)
²⁴ Therefore , a man will	Gen. 2:24 is a pronouncement by Adam to God ⁸
leave his father and mother	This is how it will be from now on; a man will leave his parents, be
and be joined to his wife, and	joined to his wife and the two will become one flesh.
the two will become one	
flesh. ²⁵ Now the man and his	They were naked before one another and felt no shame.
wife were both naked, but	
they felt no shame.	
	,
Genesis 3:6-19 The serpent	
was the shrewdest of all the	
wild animals the Lord God	
had made. One day he	

7 'helper' does not mean 'assistant'; in fact most of the 21x 'ezer is used it is used of God toward Israel (16/21) or toward military allies (3/16); thus, this term does not mean inferior but a willing helper. Adam's expression 'bone of my bone & flesh of my flesh' means equal to, the same as, corresponding with. Genesis 2 is a description of Adam from incomplete to complete not from superior to inferior. Genesis 2:21 Derivation of Eve from Adam does not suggest superiority else the ground is superior to Adam Genesis 2:7; Gen.2:23; 3:20 Adam naming 'woman' & 'Eve' is not an indicator of his superiority either but his discernment, any more than Jacob's naming of Bethel makes him superior to the presence of God. Also, in 2:23 the use of passive voice suggests that it is God not Adam who names her 'woman'. Notice also in Genesis 1:26-28 they have the same blessing and responsibilities;

asked the woman, "Did God

8 To what is 'therefore' pointing? Probably something like this, "Since God created man and woman to be one, Therefore, men and women will enter into the same kind of relationship: leaving others, clinging to one another and becoming one flesh" The term 'therefore' at the head of v.24 points out that what follows is normative for marriage:

the fruit from any of the trees in the garden? "Co course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden," the woman registed. ³ HIS only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, 'You must not eat it or even touch it, if you do, you will de: "4 'You wont diel" the serpent replied to the woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicous, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. too. 'At that moment their eves were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at heir nakedness. So they seved fig leaves together to cover themselves. 'When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the Lord God walking about the garden. So they hid from the Lord God aked. "Have you eating in the garden. So they hid from the Lord God aked. "Have you walking in the garden. 'He regist.' "''''' the man replied, 'I'' was the woman''''''''''''''''''''''''''''''''''''	really say you must not eat	
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¹² The man replied, "It was the woman you gave me who the woman you gave me who		God asked if Adam had eaten the fruit.
¹² The man replied, "It was the woman you gave me who The first and still typical reaction to guilt is shifting blame from self to anything		
the woman you gave me who The first and still typical reaction to guilt is shifting blame from self to anything		A de se ac'id (arthe de se a de s
elect in the base he blaned Eve (the woman) and eed (yeu gave he) belore	gave me the fruit, and I ate	else. In this case he blamed Eve ('the woman') and God ('you gave me') before
it." admitting his part ('I ate').	It."	admitting his part ('I ate').

¹³ Then the Lord God asked	
the woman, "What have you done?"	
"The serpent deceived me,"	
she replied. "That's why I ate	
it."	
¹⁴ Then the Lord God said to	
the serpent, "Because you	
have done this, you are	
cursed more than all	
animals, domestic and wild.	
You will crawl on your belly,	
groveling in the dust as long	
as you live. ¹⁵ And I will	
cause hostility between you	
and the woman, and	
between your offspring and	
her offspring. He will strike your head, and you will strike	
his heel."	
¹⁶ Then he said to the	
woman, "I will sharpen the	
pain of your pregnancy, and	
in pain you will give birth.	
And you will desire to control	There will be conflict over control in the marital relationship.
your husband, but he will rule	
over you."	God told Adam that the consequence for listening to Eve was difficult
¹⁷ And to the man he said,	and, often, futile work.
"Since you listened to your	מות, טונכוז, ותנווב שטוג.
wife and ate from the tree	
whose fruit I commanded you not to eat, the ground is	
cursed because of you. All	
your life you will struggle to	
scratch a living from it. ¹⁸ It	
will grow thorns and thistles	
for you, though you will eat of	
its grains. ¹⁹ By the sweat	
of your brow will you have	
food to eat until you return to	
the ground from which you	
were made. For you were	and death.
made from dust, and to dust	
you will return."	
Proverbs 5:1-23 My son, pay	
attention to my wisdom	
³ For the lips of an immoral	
woman are as sweet as	The seductress says many enticing things
honey, and her mouth is	
smoother than oil. ⁴ But in the	but she is deadly to you.
end she is as bitter as	
poison, as dangerous as a	
double-edged sword. ⁵Her	
feet go down to death; her	
1	

steps lead straight to the	b/c she cares nothing for righteousness.
grave. ⁶ For she cares	ble she cales nothing for hynteousness.
nothing about the path to life.	
She staggers down a	
crooked trail and doesn't	she is lost herself
realize it. ⁷ So now, my sons,	
listen to me. Never stray	
from what I am about to say:	Stay far from her
⁸ Stay away from her! Don't	Stay har non-ner
go near the door of her	
house! ⁹ If you do, you will	otherwise you will lose honor and lose everything that matters
lose your honor and will lose	
to merciless people all you	
have achieved. ¹⁰ Strangers	
will consume your wealth,	
and someone else will enjoy	
the fruit of your labor. ¹¹ In the	
end you will groan in anguish	
when disease consumes	
your body. ¹² You will say,	
"How I hated discipline! If	
only I had not ignored all the	
warnings! ¹³ Oh, why didn't I	
listen to my teachers? Why didn't I pay attention to my	
instructors? ¹⁴ I have come to	
the brink of utter ruin, and	
now I must face public	
disgrace." ¹⁵ Drink water from	Only share love with your wife
your own well - share your	, , ,
love only with your wife.	why waste your sexuality outside of marriage
¹⁶ Why spill the water of your	why waste your sexuality buiside of manage
springs in the streets, having	
sex with just anyone? ¹⁷ You	
should reserve it for	
yourselves. Never share it	Let your wife bless you
with strangers. ¹⁸ Let your	, ,
wife be a fountain of blessing	Rejoice in her
for you. Rejoice in the wife of	
your youth. ¹⁹ She is a loving	Let her eavy ality action way
deer, a graceful doe. Let her	Let her sexuality satisfy you
breasts satisfy you always.	
May you always be	Let her love captivate you
captivated by her love. ²⁰ Why	why be captivated by another woman
be captivated, my son, by an	
immoral woman, or fondle	God sees what you are about
the breasts of a promiscuous	
woman? ²¹ For the Lord sees	
clearly what a man does,	
examining every path he takes. ²² An evil man is held	An evil man is ensnared by his sins
captive by his own sins; they	he will die for lack of self-control
are ropes that catch and hold him. ²³ He will die for lack of	
self-control; he will be lost	
because of his great	
because of this yield	

foolishness.

Proverbs 18:22 The man who finds a wife finds a treasure, and he receives favor from the Lord.	A wife is a treasure – a blessing from God
Proverbs 19:14 Fathers can give their sons an inheritance of houses and wealth, but only the Lord can give an understanding wife.	Only God can provide an understanding wife

Ecclesiastes 9:9 Live happily	Live happily with your wife (this sounds like a choice you can make)
with the woman you love	
through all the meaningless	
days of life that God has	Charles a reward from Cod
given you under the sun. The	She is a reward from God
wife God gives you is your	
reward for all your earthly	
toil.	

Song of Songs	Read this entire book focused on delight.	I won't comment on it here.

Ephesians 5:21 and be	Subject yourself to your wife
subject to ¹ one another in the	out of respect for Christ
fear of Christ.	¹ hupotasso – to arrange yourself under
	Agapeo your wife
25 Husbands, love your	
wives, just as Christ also	just as Christ did the church and gave himself up for her
loved the church and gave	to sanctify her with the word
Himself up for her; that He	so that the church would be faultless
might sanctify her, having	
cleansed her by the washing	² rhema – in this case the term means the specific application of truth in a situation;
of water with the word ² , that	Mt.4:4 Christ says man lives by every <i>rhema</i> that comes from the mouth of God and
He might present to Himself	then uses scripture to resist Satan. Timely application of scripture seems in
the church in all her glory,	view here. We sanctify our wives by our understanding and use of God's truth this
having no spot or wrinkle or	goes well beyond becoming our wife's Bible tutor.
any such thing; but that she	5 5 5
should be holy and	
blameless.	Agonoo your wife
So husbands ought also to	Agapeo your wife
love their own wives as their	as your own body (i.e. the implication is that she's part of your body)
own bodies. He who loves	nourishing her
his own wife loves himself;	cherishing her
for no one ever hated his	just as Christ also does the church
own flesh, but nourishes and	because we are members of His body
cherishes ³ it, just as Christ also <i>does</i> the church,	
also <i>does</i> the church, because we are members of	³ <i>thalpo</i> – to warm and hence to tenderly love
His body.	
(cites Gen.2:24)	
This mystery is great; but I	
am speaking with reference	Summary: Agapeo your wife as your own body
an speaking with reference	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

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to Christ and the church. Nevertheless let each individual among you also love his own wife even as himself; and <i>let</i> the wife see to it that she respect her husband.	See Genesis 2:24; Mark 10:8 & 1 Corinthians 6:16
1 Corinthians 7:3-4 The husband should fulfill his wife's sexual needs, and the wife should fulfill her husband's needs. ⁴ The wife gives authority over her body to her husband, and the husband gives authority over his body to his wife.	Fulfill your wife's sexual needs Give her authority over your body
Colossians 3:19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be embittered against them	Love your wife Do not be embittered against her (you can choose forgiveness & forbearance)
1 Peter 2:21-25 ²¹ For God	God calls you to do good even if it means suffering
called you to do good, even if	God calls you to do good even in it means suitening
it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example, and you must	Christ suffered for you
follow in his steps. ²² He never sinned, nor ever	He never sinned or deceived anyone
deceived anyone. ²³ He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten	He did not retaliate when insulted
revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands	He did not threaten revenge when he suffered
of God, who always judges fairly. ²⁴ He personally carried our sins in his body on the	He left his case in God's hands – who always judges fairly Christ carried your sins in his body on the cross
cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is	so you can be dead to sin and live for what is right
right. By his wounds you are	Christ's wounds healed you
healed. ²⁵ Once you were like sheep who wandered away. But now you have turned to your Shepherd, the Guardian	You once wandered away from God but now have turned to Jesus He shepherds you and guards you
of your souls 1 Peter 3:7In the same way, you husbands must give honor to your wives.	So, honor your wife
Treat your wife with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker	So, treat your wife with understanding
than you are, but she is your equal partner in God's gift of	she is your equal partner in the gospel
new life. Treat her as you should so your prayers will	Treat her right so your prayers will not be hindered

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