

Questions Posed for Study

Question: How to Live with a lost spouse

'Living with a lost spouse'

(I Peter 3:1 - 6)

Intro: This passage of Scripture is as good a starting place as any on this subject. It is about one's attitude concerning one's behavior toward a lost spouse. Before we examine some of the verses before us, we need to keep in mind that this passage is not limited to women only, but contains principles work for the husband as well who are married to unsaved spouses.

I. Christians must be _____ to submit to their spouse! I Peter 3:1.

A. We are by nature _____ individuals who care primarily about ourselves.

1. Saved spouses want their unsaved spouses saved, not so much to escape hell, but with the idea that an unsaved spouse who gets saved will _____ them better.
2. When the saved spouse submits to the other person, the married Believer is able to show true _____ in action giving the Holy Spirit something tangible to use in convicting the unsaved spouse. **(I Corinthians 7:12 – 16 & Ephesians 5:21)**
3. What does it mean to submit?
 - a. What is not on the table so to speak, is submitting or giving in to areas that involves a _____ of one's testimony, conscience or convictions. **(Acts 5:29)**
 - b. If the unsaved individual is wanting the saved spouse to go to bars and drink liquor which would cause them to compromise their testimony, then submitting would not be _____ & certainly not being consistent.
 - c. Submitting is a matter of putting the other person's _____ before your own in those areas where it is consistent with honoring God and maintaining one's testimony.
 - d. The saved individual can still be positive, kind, respectful and obliging in other areas of the marital relationship, especially those areas that _____ to the heart. Being campimetry being thankful, making special attempts to enjoy those things you have in common, praises when praise are needed.

B. We must make sure our Christian walk and conversations are _____ & _____.

1. **Note I Peter 3:2** – Conversation is addressing a _____ that is as visible as the clothing or jewelry one wears.

2. As the Redeemed of the Lord we are supposed to live _____ than the rest of the world because of the transformation taking place inwardly – **II Corinthians 5:17**.

3. Peter, lead of the Holy Spirit is telling us that when a lost spouse sees a difference or a change for the better in their saved spouse, God is _____ to convict them and even win them over to Christ. **I Corinthians 7:12 – 16**.

C. And as well, there are other consideration that need to be taken into account

1. First, realize that a marriage involving a saved person and a lost person is a _____ marriage.

a. When a spouse comes to a saving faith in Christ after marriage the marriage becomes a mixed marriage and this is what the Bible is _____ dealing with.

b. When one who is saved chooses to marry an unsaved person, they:

(1). Are _____ God and starting off their marriage on a troubling basis.

(2). They are spiritually _____ and the unsaved spouse lacks the ability to discern spiritual principles and discernment.

(3). It is a situation in which _____ can and will have a field day.

2. Secondly, such will encounter _____ because they are spiritually different when it comes to finances, raising children, and spiritual responsibilities to God.

a. The saved individual is or should be lead of the Holy Spirit while the unsaved is lead of their _____.

b. The unsaved person holds a _____ view and is headed to a Christless eternity while the saved person should be holding a _____ view of the world and is heading to heaven.

D. Knowing that God is not in favor of a saved person marrying a lost person, God is still in favor of such a marriage _____.

1. **I Corinthians 7:13 – 15** – Covers several scenarios providing _____ from the Lord.

a. If a lost husband wants to remain married to a saved wife, then she is not to _____ her husband just because he is lost.

b. Vise-versa, for the saved husband with a lost wife.

2. If however, the lost spouse wants a divorce, then the saved spouse should _____ them to get a divorce.

E. Should any Believer find themselves in any such situation, if one cares for the other person, then maintaining ones walk with God will lead them to making the right decisions. Remember that the Lord loves the unsaved spouse, Jesus died for them too!

F. When we choose to disobey the Word of God, we give Satan an open invitation to either destroy the Believer by compromise or make the marriage so miserable that divorce seems the only answer, it is not!