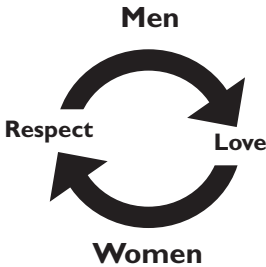


CRACKING the LOVE CODE

What Men Need

1. Men need respect as much as women need love.

“So again I say, *each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.*” (Ephesians 5:33 NLT)



“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.” (Philippians 2:3-4 NIV)

2. Men need unconditional respect if they are to fulfill their roles as leaders in the home.

“For wives, this means submit your husbands as to the Lord. For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything.” (Ephesians 5:22-24 NLT)

“In the same way, you wives must accept the authority of your husbands. Then, even if some refuse to obey the Good News, your godly lives will speak to them without any words. They will be won over by observing your pure and reverent lives. Don’t be concerned about the outward beauty of fancy hairstyles, expensive jewelry, or beautiful clothes. You should clothe yourselves instead with the beauty that comes from within, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God. This is how the holy women of old made themselves beautiful. They trusted God and accepted the authority of their husbands.” (1 Peter 3:1-5 NLT)

3. Godly wives seek to understand their husbands and help them rather than control them.

“Then the Lord God said, ‘It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.’”

(Genesis 2:18 NLT)

“She tormented him with her nagging day after day until he was sick to death of it.” (Judges 16:16 NLT)

“A quarrelsome wife is as annoying as constant dripping on a rainy day. Stopping her complaints is like trying to stop the wind or trying to hold something with greased hands.” (Proverbs 27:15-16 NLT)

a. Major values men hold.

- Men desire respect more than love.
- Men desire to work and achieve.
- Men desire to protect and provide.
- Men desire to lead.
- Men desire sexual intimacy.

b. 12 things a godly woman does to help her husband fulfill his role.

- Prays for her husband on a regular basis.
- Joins a small group of women dedicated to honing their skills as women, wives and mothers.
- Respectfully (and creatively) reminds her husband of things without nagging or scolding.
- Believes the best about her husband and avoids negative criticism.
- Forgives (let's go) of past offenses and refuses to bring them up again.
- Clearly communicates expectations of her husband.
- Controls spending and helps coordinate the family budget.
- Consults her husband on major expenditures.
- Frequently tells her husband what she admires about him and NEVER disrespects him publicly.
- Encourages her husband to grow as an individual and provides time for him to build healthy male friendships.
- Actively shows physical affection. (He needs to know you desire him.)
- Knows and uses the 8 magic words: “I’m so proud of you. I trust you.”

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