

Opening Heaven's Windows Through Family

by J. Mike Minnix

TITLE:	Opening Heaven's Windows Through Family
BIBLE BOOK:	1 Peter 3 : 7
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SUBJECT:	God's Blessing; Marriage
SERIES:	Opening the Windows of Heaven
OBJECTIVE:	(Sermon 6 of 7 in a Series) Peter is addressing the subject of husbands and wives, and beyond that how we treat each other in the family of God. He is pointing out that to keep the prayer line open and the path of blessing unhindered, we must consider how we treat each other in the family - both our home and our church families.

Introduction
I. Submissive Wives
II. Sensitive Husbands
III. Sympathetic Members

Introduction

We have been considering passages in the Bible which speak of either opening or closing the conduit of heaven on our lives, families or churches. Many times the Bible speaks to us concerning steps we can take to create an atmosphere for blessing or an atmosphere for defeat. Such is the case tonight. Look with me in 1 Peter 3:7.

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In verse 9 we read that we must act properly toward each other in order to inherit our best blessing from the Lord. So lets think about what this is saying. Just how do we insure the blessing? We must know how to suffer? Look at 1 Peter 2:21. Jesus is our example. The people in Peter's day were scattered over the ancient world through persecution. Peter wrote to them not about their civil rights but about their testimony for Jesus. We need to understand that this is our most important duty! But, when we act accordingly, we find a blessing awaiting us both in this life and the life to come.

I. Submissive Wives

Luke 2:51; Romans 13:1;

II. Sensitive Husbands

Husbands who dwell with their wives according to knowledge do not hinder their prayers. To be inconsiderate of your wife, closes heavens windows.

God is concerned for women in a special way. First, I believe this is true because Satan so hates women. The promise of God was that the seed of a woman would crush his head. From that time on he must surely hate women. So women deal with some problems and stresses that men do not face. But God has promised to be with the woman and to bless her as she trusts in Him.

Secondly, God has placed the woman in a special role in life, stating that she is to be submissive to her husband. For this reason God has given instructions to men to be considerate with their wives. He has gone so far as to tell us to love our wives as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself for it. Men, we cannot love our wives too much!

"The doctor said that my wife and I need more exercise, so I've just bought myself a set of golf clubs," said Estep to his neighbor. "That's good. And what have you bought for your wife?" Estep said, "A lawn mower."

Some men are not very thoughtful when it comes to their wives.

Living like that can get you into real trouble. The other day I read about a church picnic that involved some fun competition. At a church picnic Mrs. Benson won the rolling pin throwing contest, and Mr. Benson won the fifty-yard dash.

He: You don't deserve a man like me!

She: I don't deserve migraine headaches either, but I've got them!

III. Sympathetic Members

Members who take thought of each other and understand the differences that exist between us.