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**HOW TO STAY CLOSE AS PASTOR AND WIFE**

Dr. Mike Wells

Mark 10:8, “*And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh*.”

Nothing is as hurtful to the cause of Christ as a dual lifestyle. The pastor who lives one way at home and another way at church is a disaster waiting to happen. The affects will be seen in the lives of their offspring for years to come. The discipline of depart-mentalizing your life will give you the structure to deal with multiple issues. However, if a bad spirit permeates these areas of life, he will disease everything he touches. The wife of a pastor must experience the up­beat spirit of her pastor/husband. The pastor must be the cheerleader in the marriage. In turn, the wife will not reject the demands of the ministry and feel like a second-class citizen.

1. Never carry your burdens home to your wife. Your wife needs to be able encourage you and burdened down it is impossible.
2. Never conceal major battles from her.
3. Immediately write down on a 3 x 5 card her concerns and look in to it later. Make sure she knows that you are care.
4. Do not discuss members in a critical vein. It is hard to restore church members if your wife becomes bitter at them.
5. Direct the conversation elsewhere, if it appears to be headed in the wrong direction.
6. Ask advice of her and discuss philosophies.
7. Discuss Bible truths together.
8. Visit the sick together.
9. Visit the shut-ins together.
10. Go soul winning together.
11. Speak often of her and fondly of her.
12. If she hints at it and you can afford it, remember it, write it down, save money, then buy it.
13. Treat her like a queen.
14. Provide for her needs.
15. Give her the best things.
16. Give her a set amount of money weekly for food, household needs and personal needs.
17. Never shortchange her on her money.
18. Have a weekly date.
19. Take her on a preaching trip with you.
20. If possible, take her to Conferences every year.
21. From time to time help to do the dishes.
22. From time to time help to do the laundry or fold clothes.
23. From time to time help to clean the house.
24. Always call her regularly when out of town.
25. Call during the day and tell her that you love her.
26. Call and let her know you’re coming home time.
27. Laugh with her and tease her.
28. Look for humor to share with her.
29. Teach the people to love and respect her.
30. Keep the mystique.
31. Surprise her with things.
32. Let her home be her domain.
33. Divide responsibilities.
34. Learn to tactfully change subjects.
35. Counsel with her before hiring a female.
36. Let her counsel females.
37. Have her speak to the young girls in the church once a year.
38. Furnish a wardrobe that gives her a classy, queenly look.
39. Be her best friend.
40. Teach her to be friends with everyone and not just someone.
41. Point her to a long distance counselor such as a successful pastor’s wife.
42. Buy her sweet, feminine smelly stuff.
43. Have a getaway time at least once a year.
44. Get a baby-sitter at least once a month and spend time together.
45. Turn the phone off at mealtime.
46. Let her show her love to you.
47. Tell her all of the positive things going on at church.
48. Treat her parents with extreme dignity.
49. Be at your best when you are with her.