

HUSBAND-LOVING LESSONS

From The Perfect “Marriage Manual”



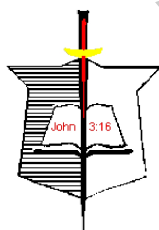
Yvonne S. Waite

HUSBAND-LOVING LESSONS

**A SERIES OF LESSONS FOR WIVES OF ANY
AGE FROM THE PERFECT “MARRIAGE
MANUAL”—THE WORDS OF GOD**

**By
Yvonne S. Waite**

Edited By
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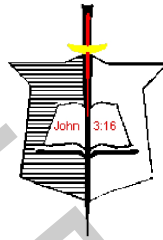


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Jeremiah 6:16

DEDICATION

I dedicate this book to the memory of my mother, Gertrude Barker Sanborn, and my mother-in-law, Helen Peirce Waite, who taught me by example how to be a good wife. No woman could have had better human patterns for wifemanship.

My mother's first allegiance to the Words of God was followed by her love and wifely obedience to her husband, my father, R. O. Sanborn. A daughter could not have a better example than I had in Mother. She taught me how to hold my head up high in life's conflicts, how to walk, and how to trust and obey God. Often she would say, "If you do not obey me, you will not obey God!" Her admonition taught me to be a law-abiding person, and to obey God's Words found in the Bible. It was she who led me to Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour. It is an introduction I'll never forget and it has shaped my whole life!

My mother-in-law taught me by example how to be a "Mrs. Waite." I saw her submit to her husband, Virgil Henry Waite, and be his champion, even when it was not easy. She was a woman of strong fortitude and courage, a leader among women—but always a country-town girl at heart. She taught her son how to be a man and care for his family, encouraging his future leadership as a husband and a father. I will always be grateful for my mother-in-law, who at first frightened me with her authoritative manner and uncomplaining spirit. She was a woman I can try to emulate, but never would be able to, even if I live to be one hundred. She was good and merciful, an example for me all of our sixty-five years of marriage (since August 27, 1948).

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INTRODUCTION

THE AUTHORITY TO TEACH

MY AUTHORITY TO BE BOLD ENOUGH TO TEACH SUCH LESSONS IS FOUND IN TITUS 2:3-5:

The aged women...teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, KEEPERS AT HOME, good, OBEDIENT TO THEIR OWN HUSBANDS, that the word of God be not blasphemed!

THESE LESSONS HAVE HELPED COUPLES

A few years ago, my husband and I were eating in a nearby restaurant. As we sat there, a woman kept looking at me. She was with her husband. Soon she asked if I were Mrs. Waite. She said she knew me from the past. While pointing at me, she turned to her husband and said, **“HONEY, THIS IS THE WOMAN WHO SAVED OUR MARRIAGE!”**

It turned out that she had been in one of the **HUSBAND LOVING CLASSES** which had been held in one of the homes in South Jersey many years ago. I can tell you it was a humbling experience! I was amazed!

THE PERFECT TEXT

After I wrote these **HUSBAND-LOVING LESSONS**, I sent my teaching manual to my mother, expecting her to comment on the lessons. There was no comment—only silence. I wondered about her silence. She lived far from me, so I did not see her often, but we corresponded almost weekly. So the next time I visited her, I asked: “Mother, what do you think about the **HUSBAND-LOVING LESSONS**?” Usually she

commented on my writing with approval. This time was different. Mother said something like this: ***“YOU HAVE NOT LIVED LONG ENOUGH.”***

As the years have flown by since last she so spoke, I realized she was right. I had not lived long enough! At the writing of these lessons, I had been married twenty-eight years. Compared to her many years of marriage, mine was in its infant stage. My parents had sixty-five years of marriage and my husband’s parents had decades. Now that I have been married sixty-five years at this printing, I have realized how wise my mother’s statement was. Yet, I still maintain, as I did back in 1977, when these lessons first came into being, that I then had, and now have, the *perfect* textbook for marriage. That text was and is THE BIBLE, God’s Holy Words! From Its pages, the youngest bride, to the oldest great-grandmother-wife, can sit at Jesus’ feet and learn how to be a godly wife.

THE LIFE MATE DECISION

Most of us come into marriage completely ignorant of its pitfalls and difficulties. We have seen our parents pattern the subject, and often that was good; but when you and I walked down that wedding aisle, we had not the faintest idea of the life ahead of us. Most often our choice of a husband was made when we were young, innocent, and completely unaware of what our needs really were or would be. We made our “LIFE-MATE DECISION” when we had barely made *any* life-choices of any importance at all. Sometimes the very attribute that drew us to our choice of a husband so many years ago is the very characteristic that disturbs us most after marrying him.

AN OPEN DOOR TO TEACH MARRIAGE PRINCIPLES

I remember well the day I met DOLLY BERRY, and when she asked me to teach her how to be a good Christian wife. She had recently been born-again out of the Catholic Church and desired to do God’s will in all areas of her life, beginning with her marriage. Only a few weeks prior to

meeting Dolly, I had prayed that God would open a door of service for me to teach women. So she and her friends gathered around my dining room table as we searched the Scriptures together to see what they had to say to help us be the Christian wives God wanted us to be.

Every week, women with marriage needs would sit at that table to learn. Most were women I had never met. Soon the classes extended to other homes and other neighborhoods. It was a season in my life of great surprise and blessing to be used of God in such a way. It was a time of personal challenge for me to live the lessons that I was teaching. Marriage is hard. It is difficult. We are ever-learning how to be godly wives. The lessons will not cease until our marriages end—not in divorce, but in our deaths or that of our mates. If a marriage ends in divorce, it is an incomplete marriage and an incomplete life, snuffed out before it had a chance to be “perfected” by God’s Words.

At the time, I was not “aged.” For some reason at that time of my life, I considered myself as one of the “older women” of Titus 2:3-5. I had been married twenty-eight years to the same husband. We had five children—four were adults. Though I had much living and sorrow in my life; MY MOTHER WAS RIGHT! I had not lived long enough!

Yet, I felt, at the time, that the LORD would have me teach women what He had taught me and continues to teach me from His Scriptures on HUSBAND-LOVING. I do believe those classes and those lessons were from God because they were taken from the Bible. Then my students could teach others the same truths as to HOW other wives could learn to love their husbands. It was a challenge for pupils and teacher.

THANKFUL HUSBANDS

What an amazing time in my life! Husbands came up to me in the supermarkets to thank me for the lessons. Women would introduce me to their little babies or children and relate, “Mrs. Waite, this is my HUSBAND-LOVING CHILD.” Just a few weeks ago, a woman wrote me thrilled that she had discovered my HUSBAND-LOVING LESSONS. She had found my JUST

FOR WOMEN radio programs on our BibleForToday.org internet site.

I remember a young man in California who came to me, thanking me for writing *HUSBAND-LOVING LESSONS*. I mentioned to him that I was having doubts about an article I was contemplating on I Corinthians 7. I thought I might be overdoing it. He implored me, “Mrs. Waite, you *MUST* write it! *YOU MUST BE BOLD!*”

When the *HUSBAND LOVING LESSONS* first began, I was over forty years old “in the Lord,” as a born-again believer. I had been married twenty-eight years. The Lord had blessed Dr. Waite and me with four sons and a daughter. Our second-born son went HOME to be with the Lord in April of 2008. I miss him. We have eight grandchildren, and thirteen great grands at this writing. They are a joy to me!

My husband and I graduated together in 1945, from Berea High School in Berea, Ohio. We were married on August 27, 1948, and traveled on our honeymoon to Dallas, Texas. My husband was a student at DALLAS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY—the old Dallas—earning his Th.M. and Th.D. degrees.

It was as a new bride, living in our twenty-six foot trailer behind the seminary, that God began to unfold His teaching on WIFELY SUBMISSION. It was there that I began my long journey down the road in *HUSBAND-LOVING LESSONS*.

SOME THANK-YOU’S

I want to thank my husband of sixty-five years (1948-2013), Pastor D. A. Waite, Th.D., Ph.D., for encouraging me in publishing this book. Years ago, he would come home from teaching school and type the *HUSBAND-LOVING LESSONS* on his electric typewriter, putting it into a better form, helping me with spelling, and checking out any doctrinal errors.

For this second printing of the book, Dr. Waite has worked with me and my proof readers, MARILYN STOUT and ANNE MARIE NOYLE, who corrected many

INTRODUCTION

errors and Scripture passages. Thank you, Marilyn, for all your work which was far above the call of duty for any proofreader. Thank you, Anne Marie for the hours of reading and re-reading you did, and for the corrections you made for a better understanding of the book. I want to thank my husband, too, for the hours and hours he has taken to copy these corrections into the body of the book.

Thank you, Editor H. D. Williams, for your diligence and editorial wisdom crafting an old copy-machine manuscript into a book of marriage wisdom to be used for God's glory in the lives of Christian women wherever they may be. Also, I appreciate all that Patricia Williams has done to make the book attractive with her inventive cover artistry.

This humble book has turned itself into a marriage answer for success and blessing for all to learn and practice to glorify God in their homes.

Lastly, **my acknowledgments would not be complete, if I did not thank DOLLY BERRY for asking me to teach her how to be a good Christian wife.** She encouraged me and invited many of her friends to sit around our teaching table those many years ago. *To God be the glory!*

*I THANK THEE, MY HEAVENLY FATHER, FOR
SUCH A PRIVILEGE TO TEACH THY MARRIAGE
RULES TO OTHERS. IT HUMBLER ME TO THINK
THAT THOU CANST USE THIS BOOK TO BLESS
MANY MARRIAGES AND HOMES.*

Yvonne S. Waite (Mrs. D. A. Waite)
BIBLE FOR TODAY MINISTRIES
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SAMPLE PAGES

HUSBAND-LOVING LESSON

#1

THE CHALLENGE OF SUBMISSION

I think the grandest portion of SCRIPTURE for a wife to anchor her HUSBAND-LOVING to is found in 1 Peter 2:20-3:6. A wife should read these verses until she knows what they say by heart and can bounce back upon them in her everyday living with her spouse.

A POINT TO REMEMBER

Always remember that GOD'S instructions to a woman, a wife, are for her and her only. She should not be concerned with the instructions given to the man, her husband. It is her duty to follow the wife's rules and it is her husband's duty to follow the husband's rules. If her mate does not respond to God's commands, this is not her fault, nor should she throw the fact up to the husband. Her concern is to keep her part of the bargain. Her commands are from the LORD and she should follow them and continue to walk in that path no matter what her husband does or does not do. THIS IS THE HARD PART, for we are prone to want to quit when the rest of the players are not following the rules. Not so in HUSBAND-LOVING. We must continue on, following our "marriage manual"—God's Words—even if we are the only ones reading or heeding it.

THE BEHAVIOR METHOD OF HUSBAND-LOVING (1 Peter 2:20-3:6)

Let us first have before us the definition of "behavior." It is as follows:

1. *mode of conducting oneself; deportment;*

2. *The way in which an organism, organ, or substance acts, esp. in response to a stimulus; as, the behavior of glands; activity or change in relation to environment; as, the behavior of steel under stress.*

syn. Bearing, demeanor, comportment—behavior, conduct. BEHAVIOR applies to our mode of acting in the presence of others or toward them, and often refers to purely eternal relations or to particular instances; it is especially used with reference to children. CONDUCT applies rather to the general tenor of our actions (particularly in their ethical relations) in the more serious concerns of life; when used of specific actions, it implies their moral aspects more definitely than behavior. (Webster's New International Dictionary)

THE PIVOTAL VERSE (1 Peter 3:1)

Verse one of chapter three of First Peter (1 Peter 3:1) is the PIVOTAL VERSE of this portion of the SCRIPTURES. All that precedes explains how to be in subjection to one's husband, how to behave by our conduct; all that follows embellishes this behavior or subjection.

BUFFETED FOR FAULTS

In 1 Peter 2:20, it is pointed out that if we are “*BUFFETED*” FOR A FAULT—a real fault—and “*take it patiently.*” So what? But if we “*suffer*” for doing right AND “*TAKE IT PATIENTLY*”—this is “*ACCEPTABLE WITH GOD.*”

Doesn't this verse remind us of marriage? How often a wife is blamed when innocent. The proof of our good CHRIST-LIKE BEHAVIOR is how we take this buffeting. Is our response “*ACCEPTABLE WITH GOD*”? This is a good question and often our answer is embarrassing to ourselves.