

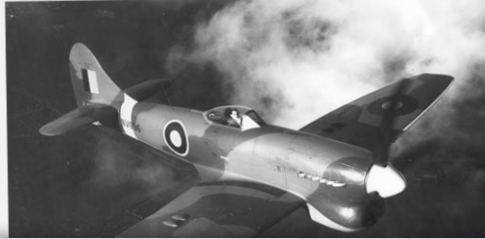
WAR DEPARTMENT AIRCREW MANUAL

Training For A Successful Mission

MARRIAGE

WARM UP

Have you noticed how God does not believe in high standards? He believes in impossible standards! For example, He says, "Be holy as I am holy". How's that for a tall order! He has the same level of standard for marriage.



BACKGROUND

Marriage is under attack – and not simply from lobby groups or politicians. As Paul says, "We do not wrestle against people but against spiritual forces". (Ephesians 6:12, paraphrased) The enemies of God would love to discredit or destroy marriage. Why? Because it is a picture of the relationship between Christ and His church, which is described as His bride.

READ Ephesians 5:25-31



QUESTIONS FOR INTERACTION

1. What does it mean to love your wife as Christ loves the church? (One of those impossible standards!)

2. What does it mean to be 'one flesh' with your wife – to be totally united? It is more than a sexual relationship. So what would oneness look like?

3. Ephesians 5:31 talks about 'leaving'. Are there relationships or activities that you need to leave in order to be able to become more one?

4. What could you do that would build oneness with your wife?

CONSIDER THIS

If your wife felt trapped in any way within the relationship or felt that you were not listening to her, who could she talk to? It is good to have people you both trust and respect who you can be accountable to and who can watch out for you.

WRAP UP

God may set an impossibly high standard – but He also gives us the ability, through the Holy Spirit living within us, to meet it.



IT'S TIME FOR PRAYER

MY RESPONSE PROMISE KEY

I will make a commitment to spend at least ten minutes in prayer with my wife each day.
I will make a commitment to take my wife out on a date at least once a month.

