

Faith Talk

Trinity Canadian Reformed Church

Worshipping Sundays 9 am and 3 pm, 2553 Binbrook Rd E

Wives and Husbands
Annie-Lynn and Ronn VanAnDel

“Family” is one of the first human relationships we experience. Our families can bring us joy and sorrow. This “Faith Talk” examines the roles of the different members of a family. We begin by examining how husbands and wives ought to properly function within a good marriage relationship.

The very first marriage was between Adam and Eve, in Paradise. Genesis 2:20b-25 says that God saw all that He had made, but for Adam “no suitable helper was found.” So God created woman from Adam’s rib and brought her to him as his wife. Therefore, the wife’s first role is to be a helper for her husband. By working together, in love to each other and to God, husband and wife complement each other.

After the fall into sin, things changed. Gen.3:16 says, “Your desire shall be for your husband and he will rule over you.” This is not negative, but positive in the sense that man was created as the head of the family. A wife is to accept her husband’s guidance and also assist him in all good things. She should take proper care of her family and household and live modestly, in faith, love and holiness.

On his wedding day, a husband says “I do” to certain wedding vows. He promises to “love and guide his wife, and to live with her in holiness.” Sometimes these promises are hard to keep. But, these vows are made not only to the wife, they are also made to the Lord and in His presence.

A key concept in any good and godly relationship is honour. When we honour each other, we not only show obedience and trust, but also reflect true love. Like Christ with his church, husbands ought to be selfless, and communicate forgiveness. Husbands aim to meet needs— not just material but also personal and emotional. Wives are not possessions, but companions of the closest kind.

Both husbands and wives have important roles. Each must live a life of service to each other and to God. What a gift to be able to truly fulfill marriage vows in mutual submission and love.

Ronn and Annie-Lynn VanAnDel are members of Trinity Canadian Reformed Church.

<http://www.trinitycanrc.org>

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