

CHARACTER IN MARRIAGE SERIES:
A character-based counseling resource for couples.

THE HUMBLE HUSBAND

*Putting Our Relationship
Ahead of Personal Pride*



LOVE **CAN** LAST
RESOURCES

What Is a Humble Husband?

Humility is often misunderstood as thinking less of yourself or simply giving in to your wife. But humility in marriage is not weakness. It is the willingness to set aside personal pride so you can love your wife well.

When my spouse demonstrates humility, I feel heard, valued, and respected. They seek to understand my perspective, remain teachable, and readily admit when they are wrong.

A humble husband does not need to win every disagreement, defend every decision, or prove that he is right. He cares more about understanding his wife and strengthening their relationship than protecting his pride.



THE BIG IDEA

*Humility puts
our relationship
ahead of
personal pride.*



REFLECT

How does my wife experience humility from me?

What Competes With My Humility?

Pride rarely announces itself with a single obvious decision. More often, it appears in the small moments when I feel challenged, misunderstood, corrected, or disagreed with.

At first, my response may seem harmless—defending my intentions, insisting on my perspective, explaining why I am right, or pointing out what my wife did wrong. But when these responses become patterns, they can slowly push our relationship behind my need to protect myself.

A humble husband doesn't simply avoid arrogance. He intentionally puts his relationship ahead of personal pride.



THE BIG IDEA

Every choice between pride and humility either strengthens or weakens our relationship.



The Humble Husband Asks...

- **Do I** seek to understand before defending myself?
- **Can I** listen to my wife's perspective without needing to correct it?
- **Am I** willing to learn something from her?
- **Can I** admit when I am wrong without making excuses?
- **What** choice would put our relationship ahead of my pride?



Personal Pride Says...

- "But I'm right."
- "That's not what I meant."
- "She needs to understand my side."
- "I don't have anything to learn from this."
- "I'm not admitting I was wrong."



REFLECT

What most often causes me to put my pride ahead of my relationship with my wife?

The Four Expressions of Humility

*Humility isn't simply an attitude.
It becomes visible in the way I respond to my wife.*



1. SEEK TO UNDERSTAND

Listen to my wife's perspective before defending my own.



2. REMAIN TEACHABLE

Stay open to learning, even when her perspective challenges me.



3. ADMIT WHEN I'M WRONG

Take responsibility when I am wrong without excuses or blame.



4. SERVE THE RELATIONSHIP

Put the health of our relationship ahead of my need to be right, win, or protect my pride.



REFLECT

Which expression of humility comes most naturally to me?

Which expression needs the greatest growth?

The Everyday Choices of Humility

Humility is often tested in ordinary moments—when my wife disagrees with me, points out something I’ve done, or sees a situation differently than I do.

In those moments, I have a choice: **protect my pride or serve our relationship.**

 THE TEST	 THE HUMBLE CHOICE	 MY WIFE EXPERIENCES
 My wife sees something differently than I do.	I SEEK TO UNDERSTAND. I listen to her perspective before defending my own.	 She experiences being heard.
 My wife points out something I may not see in myself.	I REMAIN TEACHABLE. I consider what I can learn rather than becoming defensive.	 She experiences being valued.
 I realize I was wrong.	I ADMIT IT. I take responsibility without excuses or blame.	 She experiences respect.
 We disagree and I want to be right.	I SERVE THE RELATIONSHIP. I consider what will strengthen our relationship rather than protect my pride.	 She experiences that our relationship matters to me.



REFLECT

Which of these situations most often challenges my humility?

What would it look like to respond differently the next time it happens?

Humility Is Experienced

Humility is not just an internal decision.
It is experienced by my wife through the way I respond to her.

When I choose to seek to understand, remain teachable,
admit when I am wrong, and serve our relationship,
she experiences something different in our marriage.



SHE FEELS HEARD WHEN...

I listen to understand her perspective
rather than preparing to defend my own.



SHE FEELS VALUED WHEN...

I remain open to what she has to say
and show that her perspective matters to me.



SHE FEELS RESPECTED WHEN...

I can acknowledge when I am wrong
and take responsibility for my part.



SHE EXPERIENCES OUR RELATIONSHIP AS IMPORTANT WHEN...

I am willing to set aside my pride and make
choices that serve our relationship.



REFLECT

*What is one thing I can do this week to help my wife experience
greater humility from me?*

Begin the Practice

Humility grows through ordinary choices. It is built each time I choose to understand rather than defend, learn rather than assume, take responsibility rather than make excuses, and serve our relationship rather than protect my pride.



MY VISION

What kind of husband do I want my wife to experience because of my humility?



MY PRACTICE

This week, I will intentionally practice:

- ☐ Seek to Understand
- ☐ Remain Teachable
- ☐ Admit When I'm Wrong
- ☐ Serve the Relationship



MY COMMITMENT

When my pride is challenged this week, I will remember:



ONE STEP I WILL TAKE

What is one specific thing I will do differently this week?

My goal is not to protect my pride.
My goal is to strengthen our relationship.