



25 Ways to Show Love to Your Wife

The key to a successful marriage is learning to put the needs of your spouse ahead of your own. Not sure where to start?

Here are 25 practical suggestions for doing so, gleaned from 25 years of happy marriage.

1. Listen

To be truly heard is the longing of every human heart, and your wife is no exception. But listening can be hard with so many distractions around us and within us. Set aside time every day to look into your wife's eyes and really tune in to what she has to say. ([James 1:19](#), [Matthew 11:15](#))

2. Communicate

Don't make her guess what you are thinking or feeling. ([1 Corinthians 14:9](#); [Proverbs 20:5](#))

3. Sing Her Praises

Shamelessly brag about her good qualities and quietly pray about her bad ones. Her reputation is your reputation. ([Proverbs 31:28-29](#))

4. Pray For Her and With Her

Praying for your wife not only enlists God's help, but puts her needs at the front of your heart and mind. Praying alongside your wife will strengthen your relationship like nothing else. ([Philippians 4:6](#); [Matthew 18:19](#))

5. Value Her Individuality

Your wife is wonderfully unique. Don't compare her to your mom, or your ex-wife, or your old girlfriend. Your mom may make the best chocolate chip cookies in the world, but unfavorable comparisons won't win you brownie points. ([Proverbs 31:10](#);

6. Put the Seat Down

Perpetually raised toilet seats are a pet peeve of wives everywhere. And while you're at it, tidy up a bit. A little consideration goes a long way. ([Philippians 2:4](#))

7. Throw Your Dirty Clothes in the Hamper

It's likely just a few steps from wherever you are dropping them anyway. Make this a habit, and it will let your wife know you don't consider her your personal maid.

8. Turn Off the T.V.

Lay aside the video games, pocket the iPhone, and shut off the computer, as well. It is staggering how many hours we waste gazing at some sort of screen instead of interacting with the real people in our lives. Consciously set limits on your tube-time, whatever form it takes. Use the time saved to invest in your marriage: take a walk with your wife or play a board game together instead. ([Psalm 90:12](#))

9. Loosen the Purse Strings

We all have to keep an eye on our budget, but an occasional splurge can be well worth it. Seemingly frivolous things like flowers, jewelry, and overpriced restaurants let her know that she is more valuable to you than a number in your bank account.

10. Practice Servant-Leadership

Being a leader isn't the same as being a dictator. Jesus washed his disciples' feet and then died on their behalf. It's a challenge to exercise authority while maintaining a spirit of humility, but that is what being a godly leader entails. ([Matthew 20:28](#), [Philippians 2:1-8](#); [Mark 9:35](#))

11. Remember that Intimacy's a Two-Way Street

Whether it means washing dishes and helping with kids to preserve her energy or romancing her with cuddles and candlelight, make the physical part of your relationship as pleasurable for your wife as it is for you, and it will pay huge dividends on the time invested. ([1 Corinthians 7:3](#))

12. Give Her Time to Herself

Everyone needs an occasional break to rest and recharge, and this is especially important for a wife who is at home all day with young children. Yet it's very easy to neglect this legitimate need unless you regularly and intentionally schedule time for it. ([Luke 5:16](#))

13. Set Aside Couple Time

Soak in the tub together each evening or go on a date night once a week — whatever gets the two of you alone on a regular basis. ([Genesis 2:24-25](#))

14. Be Careful with Opposite-Sex Friendships

Tread cautiously when interacting with female colleagues or associates. Honoring your marriage vows means remaining faithful in thought and word as well as deed. ([Matt. 5:27-28](#))

15. Use Good Hygiene

It is amazing how meticulous guys can be prior to marriage in their attempts to impress a girl, but once they walk down the aisle, all bets are off. Clean up a little; I promise it won't kill you.

16. Limit the Gross Stuff

Few women find burping and farting nearly as hilarious as the typical guy does. Good manners are always a win. ([Ephesians 5:4](#))

17. Be Patient

In whatever way this applies to you and your situation, apply it. ([1 Cor. 13:4](#), [Proverbs 14:29](#))

18. Cherish Her Children

A mother's bond to her children runs immeasurably deep. When you invest time or energy in them, you are investing in her as well. Kindness to them counts as kindness to her. ([Malachi 4:6](#))

19. Choose Her Over Hobbies and Buddies

Invariably there will come times in your relationship when you will be forced to choose between your wife and something else that you enjoy. Always choose her.

20. Provide for Her Needs

This is so much more than just putting food on the table. It is all-encompassing. Whether it is physical needs, emotional needs, spiritual needs— do your best to provide, remembering that the effort is often just as important as the outcome. ([Galatians 6:2](#))

21. Dial Down the Anger

Every outburst or flare-up is a relationship setback. Learn to control your temper or it will control you, your marriage, and every other aspect of your life. Do whatever it takes to gain victory in this struggle that has plagued man since Cain slew Abel. ([Ecclesiastes 7:9](#), [Eph. 4:31](#))

22. Cut Out the Condescension

Condescension isn't as loud or as dramatic as anger but can be equally hurtful and all the more so for its subtlety. Lay off the snide remarks, the sarcasm, and the belittling. Speak to your wife in the same way you'd speak to a respected colleague. ([Ephesians 4:29](#), [Colossians 3:19](#))

23. Actively Seek Your Wife's Insights

Value her input and give it a preferential place in your decision-making. ([Proverbs 19:20](#); [12:15](#))

24. Learn to Forgive

Freely forgive your wife's past, present, and future offenses. Forgiveness is at the heart of the gospel and at the heart of every meaningful relationship. ([Ephesians 4:32](#), [Colossians 3:13](#))

25. Verbally Express Your Love

There are lots of ways to show your love, but women still like to hear it spoken. ([Proverbs 27:5](#))