



Strengthening The CORE

A close-up photograph of a green apple with a bite taken out of it, revealing the white flesh. The apple is resting on a light-colored bamboo mat. A dark green rectangular banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text "Worship That is Worthy" in a white, bold, sans-serif font with an orange outline.

**Worship That
is Worthy**

²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”
(John 4:23-24 NIV)

Six Ingredients of Acceptable Worship

1. Directed to God alone

- *Ex. 20:3-5; Matt. 4:8-10; Rev. 22:9*
- **Col. 3:5** Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.”

2. The Right & Proper Motives

⁵ “And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

(Matthew 6:5-6 NIV)

Six Ingredients of Acceptable Worship

3. A Humble & Penitent Heart





**¹⁶ You do not delight in sacrifice, or I
would bring it; you do not take
pleasure in burnt offerings.**

**¹⁷ My sacrifice, O God, is a broken
spirit; a broken and contrite heart
you, God, will not despise.**

(Psalm 51:16-17 NIV)

Six Ingredients of Acceptable Worship

3. A Humble & Penitent Heart

- *Psalms 51:16-17*
- *Luke 18:9-14*

4. A Godly Character of Life

- **Prov. 21:3** To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice

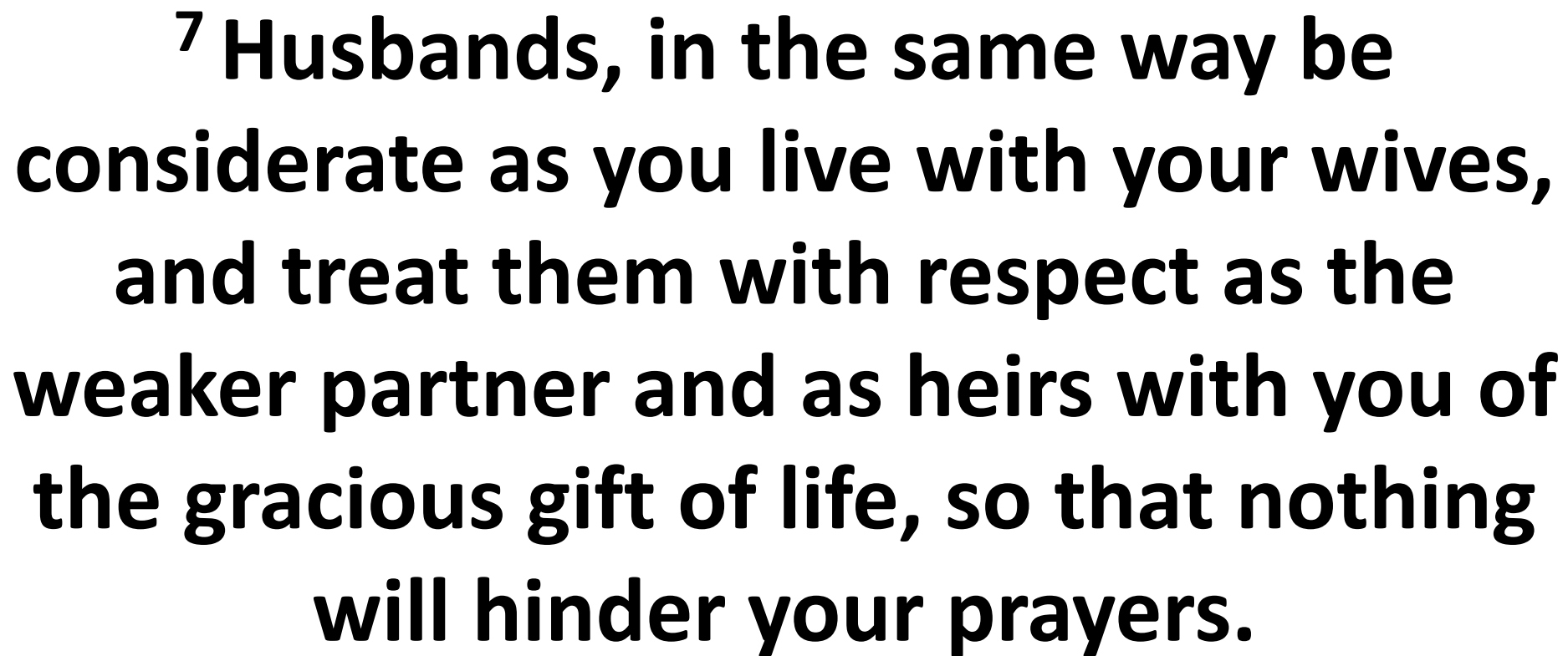
¹¹ “The multitude of your sacrifices—
what are they to me?” says the LORD.

“I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of
rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no
pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and
goats. ¹² When you come to appear before me,
who has asked this of you, this trampling of my
courts? ¹³ Stop bringing meaningless offerings!
Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons,
Sabbaths and convocations—I cannot bear your
worthless assemblies.

(Isaiah 1:11-13 NIV)

¹⁴ Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals I hate with all my being. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. ¹⁵ When you spread out your hands in prayer, I hide my eyes from you; even when you offer many prayers, I am not listening. Your hands are full of blood!

(Isaiah 1:14-15 NIV)



⁷ Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

(1 Peter 3:8 NIV)

Six Ingredients of Acceptable Worship

5. Responsive to God's Will

- ***Proverbs 28:9*** If anyone turns a deaf ear to my instruction, even their prayers are detestable

6. Divinely Prescribed Expressions

¹ Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu took their censers, put fire in them and added incense; and they offered unauthorized fire before the LORD, contrary to his command. ² So fire came out from the presence of the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD. Moses then said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD spoke of when he said:

**“Among those who approach me
I will be proved holy; in the sight of all the
people I will be honored.”**

(Leviticus 10:1-3 NIV)

Six Ingredients of Acceptable Worship

5. Responsive to God's Will

- Proverbs 28:9

6. Divinely Prescribed Expressions

- Leviticus 10:1-3
- Colossians 3:17

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