

## Editors' Choice – Saving the Best for the Last

### Why Do Families Lack So Much Love?

Mostly, it's because husbands don't love enough!!!

I once had a talk with Bishop Ruben Abante, the head of the Alliance of Baptist Churches in the Philippines. It was during this conversation that he gave me a word about families that blew my mind. He said, "Brother Bo, the Bible says in Ephesians 5:25, 'Husbands, love your wives, and wives submit to your husbands.' Have you ever wondered why the Bible doesn't say, 'Wives, love your husbands?'"

"Why?" I asked.

The Bishop explained to me that the responsibility to love the family rests on the husband's shoulder. The wife and the kids are only to respond to that love. In the same way that the Bible says in 1 John 4:9 "We love because He first loved us," we respond to God's love for us.

That was powerful. I began to reflect on all the broken families I've counselled through the past 28 years of my life. Most of them (not all) were broken because the father didn't love enough. In most of these individuals (again, not all), I see the lack of a loving father in that person's life.

But the good Bishop was not finished. He said, "Why didn't God say, 'Husbands, submit to your wife?'"

"Why?" I asked again.

The Bishop said that once that love is there, submission is the natural response. He asked, "Why is there so much rebellion and disobedience among children today?" He explained that kids need to see their mother submit to their father as a model to follow.

But let me share with you my experience:

I love my wife. I do it aggressively, assertively, and deliberately. And she submits to my leadership. I have a vision for the family and I'm bringing my family to that vision-and she supports me. But what does that mean in daily life? That I'm king and she's my slave? Gosh, you should visit my home. Because I love her, I want to serve her. And because she follows already my general direction, I realize that 90% of life's decisions are about the trivial stuff. Because I love her, it's my joy to say, "Yes" to her. So in reality, I follow her 90% of the time! She isn't my slave. She is the queen I pamper. That, my friends, is marital headship - submission in daily life.

It is with this note that I close this message. May your families be filled with love. Husbands, take responsibility in filling your family with love. Wives, support and submit to your husband. And together, we can fill the world with God's love.

**Bo Sanchez**

*(From his article posted in the Internet)*

*"This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man, this one was taken."*  
Genesis 2. 21-23

### A few reasons why guys like Tanjayanon girls:

*(Adapted)*

1. They always smell good - even if it's just shampoo
2. The way they look good - no matter what they wear
3. The way they smile – somehow you find them cute.
4. The way they fish for compliments even though you both know that you think she's the most beautiful thing on earth
5. How cute they are when they argue
6. The way she says "lets not fight anymore"  
even though you know that an hour later....
7. The way they kiss you when they hear you say "I love you" (and all of a sudden everything is right in the world)
8. The way their heads always find the right spot on our shoulder
9. The ease in which they fit into our arms
10. The way they say "I miss you"
11. The way they fall into your arms when they cry
12. The way their tears make you want to change the world so that it doesn't hurt her anymore.....

We love them for a million more reasons! And none seems to do it justice. It is a thing not of the mind but of your heart. It's a wonderful feeling that makes you fall in love again and again and again ...

### Learn from a Philosopher

In ancient Greece, Socrates was reputed to hold knowledge in high esteem. One day one fellow met the great philosopher and said, "Do you know what I just heard about your friend?". "Hold on a minute," Socrates replied. "Before telling me anything I'd like you to pass a little test. It's called the Triple Filter Test." "Triple filter?".

"That's right," Socrates continued. "Before you talk to me about my friend, it might be a good idea to take a moment and filter what you're going to say. That's why I call it the triple filter test. The first filter is Truth. Have you made absolutely sure that what you are about to tell me is true?"

"No," the man said, "actually I just heard about it and...".

"All right," said Socrates. "So you don't know if it's true or not. Now let's try the filter of Goodness. Is what you are about to tell me about my friend something good?" "No, on the contrary...".

"So," Socrates continued, "you want to tell me something bad about him, but you're not certain it's true. You may still pass the test though, because there's one filter left: the filter of Usefulness. Is what you want to tell me about my friend going to be useful to me?" "No, not really." "Well," concluded Socrates, "if what you want to tell me is neither true nor good nor even useful, why tell it to me at all?"

This is why Socrates, the great philosopher was held in such high esteem. Friend, use this triple filter each time you hear loose talk about any of your near & dear friends.

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Abeline, TX