

## Angie's Marriage Column – January 21 2009

### **Boyfriend Won't Marry Me Because I'm Too Independent**

**Marriage Question:** Hello Angie! I am a 37-year old divorcee single mom of three. I met a man a year ago who is now 28. I love him dearly and he has touched my heart in a way no one ever has, he is my best friend. I know I want to be his wife. He has been trying throughout our whole relationship to get me to subscribe to the traditional role he believes a woman should take in a relationship and the way he was raised.

At first I thought he was crazy because I am and always have been a headstrong, independent woman. I have always been the one in charge at work and home and have never allowed any man to control me. The more I thought about it and the deeper I fell in love, I began to understand his views are not a requirement for me to give up myself but for me to change my ways because a man is now in the house and I no longer need to play the role of both. He suggested we see a relationship counselor, which we have, and he has spoken to several on his own.

The advice he was given is that because of my age, I am basically set in my ways and I WILL NEVER CHANGE. Because of this advice he has ended our relationship (yesterday). He wants a wife and he does not believe I can be the wife he needs me to be. I have read the excerpt from your book "[How to Treat a Man Like a Man](#)" I have printed out ten copies and taped them all over my house as reminders especially the part about respect, because when I read the article I thought it was written for me. Everything in it sounded just like things I do.

Angie, I want to change, I want to change not only for him but also for me. I am so tired of carrying this weight of having to be a man and woman in my home. I want so much to take on the role I was meant to take on but I am lost, I am so lost. Can you please carbon copy him on your response because if you feel the same, that I can never change, he should know the truth because I trust your advice above all of the other advice that has been given. Your articles have inspired me to want to change for the man I love.

**Marriage Guidance:** I appreciate your encouraging words. I also appreciate this question – I can relate to it because I used to feel the same way as you. You want to know if a headstrong, independent woman can become the Christ-honoring and loving wife that God has meant for her to be? The answer is a resounding yes! I have been there and done that already – this is why I started Heaven Ministries because I felt God was calling me to encourage women and to share with them what I have come to learn through Him.

Changing the way we view the world around us has nothing to do with what we have been conditioned into believing. For instance if a parent teaches her daughter how to be independent minded and not in need of a husband's protection that just means she has not been taught anything else and doesn't know any better. Even you yourself said that after reading some of my articles that was when the concept of submission came into the light for you.

I hope your fiancée is reading this because anyone can change once they have a better understanding of something, no matter how old they are or what their past is like. If a person can't grow through Christ and give up the old attitude of believing that women rule over men then that would mean that no one can give up their past and be forgiven and become new people in Christ either! That's like saying just because someone was an alcoholic for 25 years of their life that they can't change? People can change if they set their heart and mind to it. People change through Christ to become better people.

How we change is through our growth and relationship in Jesus Christ. We cannot change on our own because then it is for selfish reasons (for self). We can't change for someone else because later on down the road we'll feel resentful over it. When we give up our past life, or in this case attitude, and the way we view the world around us, it involves understanding the principles that Christ has laid out for wives and husbands to follow. Anyone who is not now following these principles for their marriage now is following ideas that come from the world – this is *why* many couples aren't happy, and are divorcing – they are following a different design for marriage.

If you have the willingness to be the woman/mother/wife that God has meant for you to be, then you just do it. Don't do it for your future husband, do it for God. By doing it first for God you *will be doing for yourself and for*

*your husband.* That will be living your purpose for you. Do you see how that works?

And even if this is the man that will never be your husband, some day a new man will come your way, and you'll already have it all figured out, and you will make that husband a blessed man to have you for his wife.

If God wanted women to change and have feministic views, and be something other than what He has already designed for women to be, then there would be another book with His Word in it expressing His desires. But as it is, there is only one bible and one word, and that same word applies today, as it did 2,000 years ago. Nothing has changed with God, even though the culture has changed and has turned marriage and families upside down in the process. Does that mean we have to be like that too? No, it does not. It does not mean that we have to follow what the crowd is doing.

You say that you are lost but you aren't lost when you have Jesus Christ and His principles at your fingertips. The real question here is NOT can you change, but do you want to and are you willing to change? Some people in society have taken the beauty of being a wife and mother and turned it into something women should fear. When a young girl is conditioned into believing that she doesn't need a man, or that somehow men are inferior to women then she will behave in ways that are rebellious to men, which is what feminism is about.

Please read the article source at the end of this marriage column called The Independent Minded Christian Woman. Print it out – husband and wife should discuss and answer the questions that follow the article together.

I used to think that my husband was trying to control me and I was very headstrong and rebellious too. But I realized, just like you, that he wasn't trying to control me, but love and protect me in the way he was shown by God. He was and is only doing his job! Should we women take our man's job away from him? I don't think so.

If we women take away the purpose and positions of our husbands what is left but a bossy, rebellious wife. Being independent minded has nothing to do with it. A woman of God can still think for herself and be who she is through the mold that God created her to be. She doesn't lose anything of

herself by allowing her husband to be head of the household, but gains more of herself by knowing exactly where she stands and her role in the marriage.

- This is for all the married women reading this. **If we do not accept God's plan for our life, we will misunderstand the role that God has assigned us for marriage** – to be our husband's helpmate, to support him and love him, and to respect him always, even when we don't feel like it.
- And to be submissive and allow him to do his job of being the captain of the ship without nagging and demanding interference. If you are not being his first mate in the Godly ways assigned to you then he certainly cannot be the (Godly) captain that was assigned to him.
- Any wife who treats her **man like the man God created him to be** will be treated like a queen by her husband. I guarantee it!
- And finally for all the Christian husbands reading this. You also have a purpose and a position in your home that should be carried out according to the principles that God has designed.
- A woman cannot be a lady if you are making her be the man of the home. Or if you are not doing your job outlined for you by God. So you see it works both ways.
- She needs your encouragement and ladies your man needs your encouragement. Work together as a team and make your marriage prosper with abundance and blessings.

Answer this question honestly. "If a robber with a gun suddenly broke into your home, would you have your wife get your gun and defend the home, family, and you, or would you do it? That's what I thought. So how is it any different from those predators and bad influences that are outside of the home?"

Please email me with additional questions that may have surfaced from this marriage column. God Bless!

In Christ,

Angie and Frank  
Heaven Ministries

The Independent Minded, Married Christian Woman

<http://www.heavenministries.com/HeavenMin/Articles/independentminded.htm>

King of the Castle

<http://www.heavenministries.com/Articles/kingofthecastle.htm>

Treat Your Wife With Respect As The Weaker Partner

<http://www.heavenministries.com/HeavenMin/Articles/treatwifewithrespect.htm>

### **Book Resources:**

[Love The Woman You Married](#)

[Love The Man You Married](#)

I was told by a reviewer of my book that feminists will be offended by the lifestyle I talk about in my book, [Love The Man You Married](#). Well, of course they're going to be offended. I'm not trying to offend anyone, just telling my (Gods) side of the story.

The book shows women how to love their man, and enjoy doing it too. What is so offensive about that? Are they offended because they have experienced abuse by a man, or was controlled by a man, or maybe it is because they have been conditioned to believe that a woman is not an independent thinker unless she bosses men around and wields a little power around in her career? Nothing is further from the truth. You see, this is the FEAR that I was talking about earlier.

What is submission: Giving up selfishness and rebelliousness and becoming all of what you can be, so you will be independent enough to let go of the *need to control*, and submit to another. It's really that simple. It is so ironic, but it is those women who submit to their husbands freely and lovingly that are the most independent minded! Why is that? These women are not

dependent upon things or people to make them feel good about who they are  
- that's why!

Heaven Ministries Copyright © 2009