

Mature Masculine Leadership

Serves and sacrifices for a woman's good.

A man is called to lead a woman by serving her – not demanding to be served.

Points the woman to Christ.

The husband's role is to help his wife learn to depend on Christ.

Makes the most of others' strengths.

A godly leader doesn't try to demonstrate his own superiority. Instead, he brings out the strengths of others. A man should treat his wife like fellow heir, not like a servant girl or child.

Takes the general responsibility to initiate.

"General" is the key word. In some areas, the wife will take the initiative, according to her gifts. The man, however, has the general responsibility for his family's spiritual welfare. He is not to be passive while his wife shoulders the burden.

Expresses itself romantically.

In the sexual relationship the mature man is alert to the romantic gestures that bring his wife joy.

Takes the initiative in disciplining the children.

The wife has both authority and leadership over her children along with the husband. She can rightly discipline them in her husband's absence. When both parents are present, however, the man should take charge of discipline rather than watching passively.

Finds appropriate ways to express masculinity.

Mature men practice those manners that are associated with the role of a man, such as opening the door for a woman, seating her in a restaurant, and so on.

Knows that leadership requires repentance and humility.

Men need to be willing to humble themselves before God because of their failures and their bent toward either avoiding or overstepping their responsibilities.

Dr. John Piper
Quoted in "The Four Pillars of a Man" by Stu Weber