



SHE' THE PREACHER'S WIFE

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Everyone else was in bed by 11 PM, She pillowed her head at 1 AM because she had to prepare a meal for a shut-in to be delivered the next day.

The alarm for everybody else in the house goes off at 6 AM, for her it goes off at 5 AM. Because she has to half-heartedly groom herself, prepare lunches for the kids, empty the dish washer, feed the dogs, see to it that the rest of the family gets up, then grabbing her purse she runs out the door to drop off the little one at Day Care, but on the way she has to stop for gas. While she pumps gas she is on the cell phone checking on the gang back home to be sure they are all on schedule. A surge of panic runs through her as she wonders if she remembered to iron her husband's white shirt he needed to wear this morning.

This lady is not alone in her busy life in the fast paced, fast food world of the twenty-first century. But she has one additional burden to bear: she is a preacher's wife. This means in the eyes of most church members she is a part-time, if not full-time, employee of the church. It doesn't matter that she isn't an employee; in hiring a preacher you get two for the price of one.

When she is introduced to strangers, rarely is it by her name, it is, "This is our preacher's wife." While other ladies in the church aren't expected to attend everything or be on all the committees, she is, because after all, she's the preacher's wife. Her home must be spotless at all times because the members take the liberty without being announced or invited to drop by and inspect the home of the preacher. She must keep the windows clean in her glass house; especially if it is a parsonage owned by the church.

Along with her husband she must be a perfect parent. Her children must walk right, talk right and always be on their best behavior. The children of the members don't have to toe the line but her kids do. No wonder many grow resenting be a PK (preacher's kid).

She must be a busy bee in all church activities, but if she dares to step out and take the lead, she is accused of being a boss or trouble maker. She needs to be seen and not heard.

If she dares to venture into some of the modern clothing and dress styles, she is accused of being worldly and wasting money. If she drives a nice car she is trying to show-off.

How do I know this, and more, is true relative to the preacher's wife? I have been married to one for over 45-years. She has been my rock in a storm; she has been my shoulder to cry on in tough times; she has been my friend and lover; the mother of my children; a servant of God. She has been cast into this role not because it was her choice, but because she is married to a preacher; she is part of his ministry team.

If the stress is high for the preacher, imagine how much she is experiencing the stressors of being a wife, mother, Christians, and partner with a preacher—her husband.

While the preacher is in the spotlight, she stands just outside of the spotlight, supporting her man. He must be very sensitive to the stress she is experiencing too. As husband and wife they must help each other cope with stress; thus, preventing burnout.

Yes, she's the preacher's wife; not Superwoman, but more than this she is a child of God and must be treated with honor and respect.

Please return often to this site and read more helpful and instructive articles relating to the preacher's wife.