

## Religion's Effect on Husbands\*

*"Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. . . In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church. Ephesians 5:25-29*

### Social science literature shows that religious practice helps men become better husbands.

When compared to the wives of unaffiliated or nominally religious men, women who are married to theologically orthodox husbands are more likely to report:

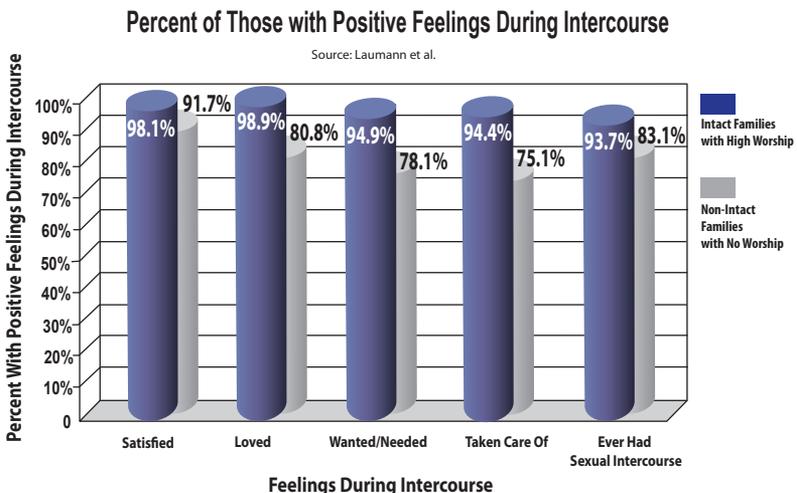
- Greater happiness with the level of understanding they receive from their husbands,
- greater happiness with the love and affection they receive from their husbands, and
- feeling appreciated by their husbands more frequently.

Interestingly, compared to their religiously unaffiliated or nominally religious counterparts, conservative Protestant husbands are:

- The least likely to commit domestic violence, and
- more likely to socialize with their wives.

### Husbands, you have a great influence on the well-being of your wife. How can you treat her in a way that is more pleasing to God?

The chart shows that couples who are in an intact relationship and attend church have more positive feelings during sexual intercourse than do those couples who are not in an intact relationship and never worship. Faith bolsters the institution of marriage and the sexual life, making for happy and engaged husbands and fathers. What a joy that God has allowed spiritual growth to increase romantic fulfillment.



For links to the research behind these statements, please visit [www.marri.us/churchbulletins](http://www.marri.us/churchbulletins)

\*It bears emphasizing that these patterns hold for the groups involved, not for all the individuals who make up each group. There is naturally a wide variation among individuals.



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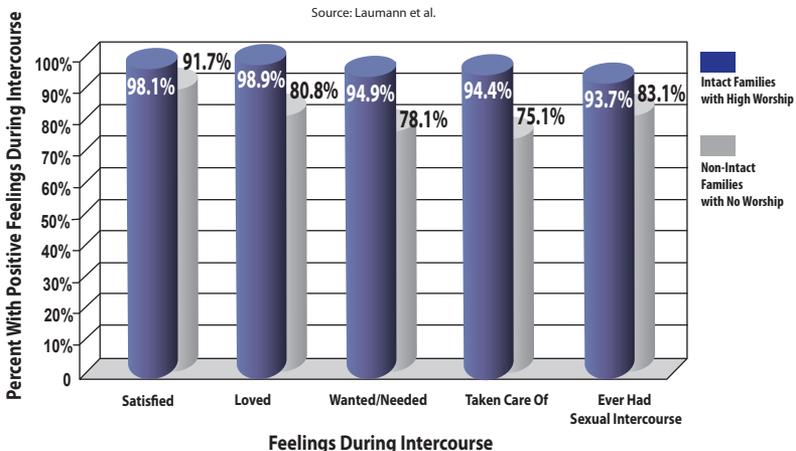
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### Percent of Those with Positive Feelings During Intercourse



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