

Let your actions be your witness

If you are a wife who is balancing your involvement in a body of believers with your involvement in your marriage, what can you say to help your husband become a believer? Not a whole lot. What really influences a husband more than your words are your actions. To wives of unbelievers, the Apostle Peter said, "Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives" (1 Peter 3). No amount of nagging or persuading can motivate an unbelieving husband toward faith. It might even drive him further away. The best draw will be seeing you live out your faith by showing him respect and loving care like he's never seen before. It won't be easy and there's no guarantee that it will generate an immediate response. But if you choose to love your spouse as unto the Lord, regardless of how he responds, you can leave the rest up to God, knowing you were faithful.

Maintain a hopeful perspective

When you are growing within a body of believers and faithfully seeking to serve and esteem your spouse, you can be hopeful. You can't control the timing, but you can believe that God is able to use your commitment to win over even the most reluctant spouse.

GOING FURTHER - Resources

Recommended Books:

Beloved Unbeliever: Women who are married to unbelievers. share the greatest difficulties they encounter and practical ways to handle problems. You'll learn: - How to be a suitable helper - How to deal with hurts, heartaches, and hindrances - How to shoulder spiritual responsibility -- In addition, you'll find workshop questions on each chapter, so you can follow up on the chapter with individual or group study.

Surviving a Spiritual Mismatch in Marriage: Surprising insights into the thinking of non-Christian spouses. A dozen steps toward making the most of your mismatched marriage. Eight principles for reaching out to your partner with the gospel. Advice for raising your children in a spiritually mismatched home. How to pray for your spouse--plus a 30-day guide to get you started

Winning Him Without Words: 10 Keys to Thriving in Your Spiritually Mismatched Marriage: Presents 10 Christ centered keys to thriving in a spiritual mismatch. Readers are encouraged to commit to Christian community, to release their spouse to God's capable hands, to find peace in their relationships with Christ and with their spouse, to continue their pursuit of a growing faith and to love their spouse with fresh enthusiasm.

Recommended Websites:

"Spiritually Unequal in Marriage" is a blog for those seeking "practical help and encouragement to thrive in a spiritually unequal marriage." Check it out at <http://unequalmarriage.typepad.com>

[Focusonthefamily.com](http://focusonthefamily.com) and [Familylife.com](http://familylife.com).

These sites contain articles, Q&A, resources and referrals related to family and marriage issues representing the best of Christian marriage support and resources. Select the Life Challenge or Marriage tabs, or enter unbelieving spouse in the search box.

For answers to specific question also try <http://family.custhelp.com>

Crosswalk.com Offers excellent information under their family tab, or enter married to an unbeliever or difficult marriage in the Crosswalk search bar.

