

Pastor's Wife Tips

Comments from Creative Ladies Ministry Facebook Threads – March 2013

<https://www.facebook.com/creativeladiesministry>

(Initials have been used in place of names)



QUESTION FROM IG

Creative Ladies Ministry..

I have a question..."What do people look for in a Pastors Wife?"

Everyone please give your insights.

CLM

Off the top of my head I'd say leadership, understanding, and is able to keep things in confidence.

GP

Yes, absolutely. Kindness, being non-judgmental is a MUST. I am currently a pastor's wife for a small country church and the people there just want someone that really loves them for who they are, and is willing to be there for them when they need to talk.

We have ladies meetings and the ladies, girls and I all look forward to that time together where we can share thoughts, struggles, and prayer requests that we might not otherwise share. I'd be glad to talk with you, pm if you want. I'm no authority by any means, but I've had good and bad experiences with other pastor's wives and have learned some things NOT to do along the way, as well as things TO do.

SCV

I am currently a pastor's wife and my previous pastors' wives have been a great influence in my life. It is my experience that the congregation likes someone who is confident, someone who is competent in the scripture, someone who will love them unconditionally but yet steer them in the right direction when they are veering off path. They want someone who is not bossy, nosey or a gossip, but someone who is involved in their lives, and someone who loves their children.

They need an encourager. They need to know that you are willing to do the work that you are asking them to do, and that you trust them to do what you have asked. They need you to be clear about anything you ask them to do. Do not assume they know how to do the way you want it done, be willing to train. They need you to repeat, repeat, repeat. They are busy, they forget to write it down.

Personally, I liked a pastor and his wife that would take the time to be friendly and personable with me and my family. One who would see strengths, gifts, and talents and encourage in those areas. And again they want to KNOW that you genuinely and sincerely love them.

LP

(SCV) said it very well.

I'm a pastor's wife also. I strive to do and be those things. I also want my congregation to know that I will work right along beside them doing the Lord's work.

KRS

I am a pastor's daughter and never dreamed that I would someday be a pastor's wife but God's plan was different than what I had imagined and recently have become a pastor's wife. I feel that God not only called my husband but also me not just as my husband's helper in the church but to minister to those ladies, and girls that are needing someone to love them unconditionally as He loves us.

We are in a small church and this past December started up a Ladies fellowship once a month, where we come together to share, eat, and do a mission project for either food pantry, women's shelter etc. I have seen firsthand a pastor's wife in my mother and then as I was out on my own and seen both sides of the spectrum. I try my best to be exactly what God wants me to be and help grow His church, and love His children the way He loves me.

NYH

In addition to what has been said above, someone who shows & walks in humility (doesn't look down on others) but is also not walked on. Someone who supports her pastor husband & her church. Who knows when to step up or in but not on. Who is not afraid to be human or who God made her to be. I had a wonderful example in my pastor's wife for many yrs.

My husband surrendered to the ministry just a few months after we were married (in 1995) & just recently (this past Oct) was ordained as pastor of a small church. I have gleaned a lot over the yrs. but still have lots to learn. God bless you

MD

My pastor's wife is the best example of how one should be: someone who you wish was your sister. Someone who is approachable, always prayerful, kind, compassionate towards all, humble and doesn't think she is better than anyone because she is married to a pastor.

I consider myself and my church blessed for having JRW as our pastor's wife because she is so involved and caring for all who come in contact with her.

CS

I agree with you (M)...also for me, I think honesty is one of the most important...If I don't know the answer, I want to be honest enough to say so, but together, we can pray and seek God for the answers needed.....

RDF

Someone who is a godly lady, you can tell she loves the Lord and the people with all of her heart. Is a good compliment and helpmeet to her husband in the ministry. (I have seen many pastors' wives who are there because it is "their husband's job" and they have no interest in God's Work.)

She loves her family and is humble in spirit. She loves, cares about, and prays for the people of the church. Shows the qualities of the virtuous woman. Not perfect, but doing her best to be what God wants her to be.

SEJ

http://www.tnprimerib.blogspot.com/2013/02/what-is-role-of-pastors-wife_27.html

SGB

Probably a more pressing need is to ask "How can I best serve my pastor's wife?"

BM

I agree with all of the above! I am a pastor's wife and a few things I hang my hat on is being open, honest and transparent. I let the sisters know that I'm human too. I have my own struggles but with God ALL things are possible and if they just hold on and faint not and diligent seek Him, He will reward them and give them the desires of their heart.

Be their #1 cheerleader and let them know you love and support them just as Christ loves us!

HE

I am a pastor's wife. Some hold me up to ideals that I'll never meet, either in abilities or personality. Because of that, I try to hold my standards to the ones found in scripture, faithful, not a gossip, hospitable, kind, a helper to my husband and a mother to my children.

If my abilities carry me into a certain area, such as teaching, counseling or event planning, then great! But, if I face a time in my life that needs to be more focused on my family's needs, then I do that. Remember that we are continually criticized for our children, our husband's leadership and for not meeting another's expectations. We fail too. This being said, it's a great privilege to minister to those that God has led us to, and I LOVE the ladies in my church.

NYH

I had a wonderful role model in my (former) pastor's wife for yrs

She still is a wonderful example & friend. However now my husband is a pastor. It is extremely important to live as Christlike as possible with the remembrance & understanding of our humanness & sinful nature. It also has helped that this - our 1st pastorate - has been a positive experience with a people who have taken us in as their own family. While some may try to put us on an unrealistic pedestal, we are no different than them in that we all have feelings, trials, etc., which it makes all the more difference to a pastor & wife to not be viewed or treated as "untouchable" or "distant" etc.

DB

I am also a pastor's wife and some of the feedback I hear most is how thankful they are for my transparency and honesty about my life, struggles, my ongoing and on-growing relationship with Jesus. Be real. Be who you are and who Jesus created you to be.

IG

Thanks ladies...I am new at being a Pastor's wife, and at times it is very hard..I know what I see in other Pastor's wives. and sometimes I don't even think I can hold a candle to them. I look at them and they always seem to be so calm..play the piano(which I can't)lol and rejoice.I do like to sing, and I always lend a helping hand when needed. I know the LORD will guide me in all the things I need to do to.

SB

You don't need all the answers to their problems, just a willing heart to love them and ears to really listen to them. Be yourself. God chose your personality to meet their needs right now. Jump in...

RCL

It is important to have a Pastor's wife who loves God, loves her husband and isn't afraid to show it...and to love others unselfishly. I feel she must be beyond trustworthy and a friend to all. We must however, remember that they too are human like us and may need a shoulder to cry on as well. Don't be "upset" if you are not the confidant she turns to. Even Pastor's wives need that special someone they can call and talk to.

Love my Pastor's wife.

BH

Someone who is supportive of what the church is doing. Never boastful and always has a smile.

TRB

Someone that is relatable. Who isn't afraid to get involved with the big activities and the small task too. However, be very careful not to take on too much or you will risk burning out. If you have a heart for God and a love for the people you will do great!

MB

Yes we have to be ourselves and not allow the church to mold us into "their" perfect image full of unrealistic expectations for a pastor's wife. We aren't the last pastor's wife. We have our own gifts and talents and God sometimes uses us in different roles than former wives.

I agree with all of the above about loving the people, being a "pastor" to the women and being trustworthy. A big thing God has changed in me in recent years is to see everyone through God's eyes. I acknowledge that everyone has a story and some need heard without judging them. Love God and love people and you will always do well!

MM

I'm a pastor's wife and love it! We serve a wonderful group of people and an even better Lord!

Here are some things I find helpful:

1. Prayer. This is vital not only to help your ladies, but also your husband.
2. Bible study. Read the Word every day! It will renew your mind, give you wisdom for those sticky questions, and keep you from getting offended (Ps. 119:165).
3. Rejoicing. Tell others what God is doing in your life.

4. Sharing. Ladies want to see transparency. They want to know you are real. Don't be afraid to share your burdens so they can pray for you -- just make sure you ask your hubby first!

5. Encouraging. Purposely look for those who need encouraged then give a call, write a note, give a small gift, go for coffee.

6. Remembering. Do your very best to remember the important things in your church people's lives -- birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, school programs, special events....

7. Teaching. Teach the truth lovingly and by example.

8. Supporting. Always support your husband, the pastor. Don't make fun of him or put him down. Minister alongside him, and if ladies come to you with a complaint about him (it happens), tell them they need to talk with him about that. Your emotions can easily get out of hand when you deal with complaints about your husband (after all he's wonderful in your eyes!) If you give an inch in this area, complaints will continue to come your way instead of where they need to go -- to him. There may be a valid complaint, but he's the one that can fix it, not you.

9. Inviting. Regularly have people in your home. Have a few "regular" hospitality meals that you serve such as lasagna, pulled pork, or party chicken (my 3 go to meals) so you won't stress about it. Plan open ended questions to ask guests in order to get to know them. Have fun with games! You will enjoy yourself and your guests will too.

10. Holy Spirit Living. Yield to the Spirit each day and moment by moment. Be still and listen to His voice and promptings, and then obey. You will find true joy in ministry if you live in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Oh my! I didn't mean to write a book! I hope these things help. Being a pastor's wife is a truly wonderful thing!

CSS

Be yourself! Don't try to follow anyone else because you aren't them. Just love and pray for the congregation. Be willing to learn

IG

Again thank you so much..I have gotten so much inspiration from all the comments. It truly warms my heart..Cindy I think that is what I have been trying to do..I look at other wives and they either sing or play the piano. I love to sing but I have Asthma and sometimes this makes it hard for me to sing, so I just hum..lol My husband says to make a joyful noise, in my case it is more a noise..lol..I will take all then comments to heart..I think you all so much.

RJ

Just be you - if you are not you there is nobody to be you Just being faithful and a warm friendly smile is a lot. Regardless if you sing, play piano etc. Just your presence in the pew means so much as when you are not there - it is a void. That's just my opinion

RS

Compassion, honesty.

JS

If you constantly try to measure up to someone's expectations you will constantly be struggling. Put your relationship with Jesus first. then you husband and children. You have to drink from the Lord's well or the well will run dry. Be what God has called you to be and your church will be blessed in return.