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But it is very important that you do so. I remember a fellow who was doing fine work in a church some years ago, not far from here. He was doing an excellent work as far as we could see. Day after ~~day~~ day he met with different people and counselled with them and helped them. He might not get home in time for his lunch. He might be an hour or two late. He was busy counselling people. He was busy carrying on the work of the ministry.

Finally one day when he had a counselling session that lasted a lot longer than he had expected he found he had to drive one of his parishoners to the hospital. So instead of getting home at 1 o'clock when his wife expected him, he got home at 3. He stepped in the door and called for her. She was not there. He remembered she had a sister in NJ. He drove over there. Her sister came to the door and said to him, You will never see your children again! That was a terrible blow.

He said to me, If I had spent a fraction of the time I spent in trying to help other people's life, trying to counsel my own wife and working with her and making our married lives a success, this would never have happened. It is important that a Christian who is married make his marriage a----- and works at it. It is so easy, if both are working and have different hours and different things to keep them from having much time together, there is a strain or can be a strain, so it is particularly important in ~~it~~ that regard that we work out our own salvation with fear and trembling.

You will find things in your partner that you didn't expect. Don't worry about it. You'll find things in your partner that will rejoice your heart! That you never dreamed were there. But the total is going to be very different from what you expected. You need to work at it in order to make your married life a success. If you do not it may happen with you as with the one I just mentioned. Things go on and then your service to Christ is terribly injured and as far as the rest of your life is concerned. May come to an end.

Worse than that it may come to a situation where you are yelling at each other, and arguing all the time. The thing to do is to have such an understanding that would prevent the development of any such situation. To try to reason things out, and if you can't reason things out just do the way she wants. After all most of the things people argue about are not tremendously important. They are not worth the arguing. It is far better to have peace than to have arguments and discension.

Worse than that, if you don't get to arguing about things the worst thing that could happen is that the wife to quietly and silently submit to what she constantly considers things that are unreasonable. It may be good; it may not be. But if she thinks it is and she quietly submits to it for a time then there are many cases where the wife has psychological problems that ~~it~~ can upset her marriage and her life and be a terrible disaster. Marriage is something that one needs to work at.