After a man is born again, spirit-filled, and is beginning to live the new life, the following should apply (*your assignment is to help him know how*):

1. He needs to be in the right place (Genesis 2:15; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3:27-28).

This usually takes place shortly after salvation, and the right place is:

- The local assembly where God has put you;
- The vocation God has asked you to pursue;
- The location God has moved you into;
- The job God has prepared for you; etc.
- 2. He needs to understand why he has been placed where he has been placed (Genesis 2:15; Ephesians 4:11-13; Isaiah 61:3; 2 Timothy 2:4; Philippians 3:12).
 - You have been placed where you have been placed because:It is where you are fed spiritually and brought to maturity;
 - It is where you are red spiritually and brought to matur
 - It is where you are able to serve God acceptably;It is where you will bring the greatest glory to God;
 - It is where you will be pleasing God;
 - It is where you will come to know why God saved your soul.
- 3. He needs to know what His God-given assignment is (Proverbs 28:19 29:18; Acts 9:3-6; 26:12-18; Luke 5:8-11; 2 Corinthians 5:15; 1 Corinthians 6:20).
 - Not knowing what your God-given assignment is, will make a man unfruitful in the things of God, and a wanderer in the earth, therefore, it is imperative that a man ask, "What will you have me do?"
 - Besides, when a man is born again, his entire life takes a new direction, including his vocation, employment, etc.
 - It must be clear to a man that he was bought with a precious price, and that he no longer belongs to himself to do as he pleases, but that he now belongs to God so that he must now do <u>only</u> what God wants him to do.
 - A man can know what his God-given assignment is by asking God, if he has not already been told by God. It should not come from a man, but from God. And even if a man tells it to you, you are still to ask God, and receive confirmation.
- 4. He needs to make himself available for training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 5:13-14; 10:25).
 - God's word is the best training material available for all those who will live according to God's ordained way.
 - Men must make themselves available to be taught the word of God, and to be able to distinguish between good and evil.
 - They should also not forsake the assembling together of the saints in worship, bible study, and retreats.
 - They should also be involved in personal study of the word of God as well as prayer.
- 5. He needs to understand what true leadership is (Ephesians 5:23, 25; Matthew 20:25-28; 1 Peter 5:2-3; 1 Timothy 3:1-7).

True leadership is not being dictatorial, a tyrant, or lording it over others; rather, it is:

- Following the example of Christ in leadership;
- Serving or ministering to the needs of those being led;

- Sacrificing yourself for those being led;
- Being an example to those being led; in word and in deed, and, at home and in church.
- 6. He needs to know what it means to love God's way (Ephesians 5:25-29, 33; Colossians 3:19; Proverbs 10:12; 1 Corinthians 13:1-8; 1 John 3:10, 16-17; 4:18).
 To love God's way in relation to one's wife means:
 - To give one's self for her, just as Christ gave Himself for the Church;
 - To nourish her (provide for her, and, bring her to maturity);
 - To cherish her (protect her, and, be affectionate towards her);
 - Not being harsh, bitter, or, resentful toward her; and,
 - Forgiving her when she has wronged you.

To love God's way in general means:

- According to the Phillips New Testament of 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a, is to be "... slow to lose patience - it looks for a way of being constructive. It is not possessive: it is neither anxious to impress nor does it cherish inflated ideas of its own importance. Love has good manners and does not pursue selfish advantage. It is not touchy. It does not keep account of evil or gloat over the wickedness of other people. On the contrary, it is glad with all good men when truth prevails. Love knows no limit to its endurance, no end to its trust, no fading of its hope; it can outlast anything. It is, in fact, the one thing that still stands when all else has fallen.";
- Voluntarily laying down one's life for others, while not expecting any gratification from them;
- Not shutting your bowels of compassion against others; and,
- The absence of fear of any sort (except of course, the fear of God);
- 7. He needs to ask God to show him who his wife (helper) is, if he is not yet married (John 14:13-14; 1 John 5:14-15; Genesis 17:15-21).

The unmarried man needs to ask God in prayer, according to God's will (not based on his own will), to show or reveal to him the woman whom God has chosen for him to be his wife and helper. Unless a man is prepared to let go of his own will, he should not expect God to give him an answer. The woman is already there, and all the man is doing, is asking God to reveal or show her to him—it is not expected that he will bring a woman before God and say, "Make this woman my wife!"

CONCLUSION

Being a man and husband is more than having a burly stature; it is first and foremost about **knowing your God-given assignment** and then, **setting out to accomplish it**. Besides the two principal things stated above, a man and husband, also needs to know and understand the implication of **true leadership** and **love God's way**. Above all, a man who is not yet married needs to ask **God** to **show/reveal to him** his **wife/helper**, who is to be his **helper/wife**. From all that has been said, it is clear that marriage has to be **kingdom**-based!