

Marriage and Family: Enjoying The Journey
201: Biblical Foundations-Part 2 Roles of Wives & Husbands

LESSON 8: The Dreaded “S” Word, Submission...What Are You Talking About?

1. Christian Perspectives:

Ephes. 5:21-24

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

[22] Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. [23] For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. [24] Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

2. Christian Principles:

2.1 The Principle of submission

- Submit means to “arrange under”
- Submission is not mutual in marriage roles

1 Peter 5:5 (NKJV)

*Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, **all of you be submissive to one another**, and be clothed with humility, for “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”*
Philip. 2:3-4

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility **consider others** better than yourselves. [4] Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.*

Galatians 5:13

*You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, **serve one another** in love.*

1 John 4:7

*Dear friends, let us **love one another**, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.*

Hebrews 10:24

*And let us **consider one another** in order to stir up love and good works,*

2.2 The Pattern of submission

- Submission is Christian

Ephes. 5:21

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ...wives to husbands (v.22)...children to parents(6:1)...slaves to masters (6:5)

1 Cor. 15:28

When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

- Submission is Continual (Present tense)

- Submission is Voluntary (Middle voice)

1 Peter 5:6

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

- Submission is Obedience (Imperative mood)

3. Christian Practices:

3.1 As a wife, do you tend to be supportive, submissive and “respectful” toward your husband? Identify which side of the “Respectful Fence” that you tend to fall off.

RESPECTFUL



3.2 Write in some self descriptions of what each of these behaviors would look like in your marriage.

3.3 Have an open/honest discussion with your spouse about making improvements in this area. What requests would you like to make that could make things better between you? Record them here for prayer and consideration.

4. Discussion Questions:

4.1 Spend a few minutes catching up on personal situations with each group member.

4.2 Discuss the submission principle from this lesson and how it differs from your previous understanding of submission.

4.3 What do you need to change in your marriage to start applying the ideas from this lesson?

4.4 When, where and why is it difficult to make these biblical changes?

4.5 Update your “Prayer Journal” in the Appendix and pray for each other before leaving.