

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

LESSON 9: Submitting Everything...Don't Hold Back

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.

Col. 3:18

Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

2. Christian Principles:

2.1 The Principle of submission

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

2.2 The Pattern of submission

- Submission is Christian
- Submission is Continual (Present Tense)
- Submission is Voluntary (Middle Voice)
- Submission is Obedience (Imperative Mood)

2.3 The Purpose of submission

- Submission is to your husband

Ephes. 5:22

Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord.

- Submission is to your Lord

Col. 3:18

Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

2.4 The Parameteres of submission

Ephes. 5:24

Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

- Everything means everything in general

1 Peter 3:1-6

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, [2] when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. [3] Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. [4] Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. [5] For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They were submissive to their own husbands, [6] like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.

- Everything doesn't mean the immoral

1 Cor. 2:13 (NKJV)

These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

1 Peter 3:2

when they see the purity and reverence of your lives.

- Everything doesn't mean the illegal

Romans 13:1

Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

- Everything doesn't mean disobedience to God

Acts 4:19

But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God.

Acts 5:29

Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than men!"

Ephes. 5:33

However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

3. Christian Practices:

Identify which of the following "acts of submission and respect" are most desired by the husband in your marriage. On two separate sheets, check the 3 that he probably likes the most and then compare your evaluations. How well do you know each other in this area?

- 1. Bring all your ideas and suggestions to him in a loving way
- 2. Write out your ideas, suggestions, requests or recommendations for him
- 3. Ask for a time to talk freely about your input or decisions to be made
- 4. Show respect to him in a verbal way
- 5. Show respect to him in a non-verbal way
- 6. Show respect to him in front of other people
- 7. Check through with him before making appointments or choices
- 8. Fulfill your wife roles and responsibilities cheerfully
- 9. Encourage or help him with projects that are important to him
- 10. Do more for him than he asks of you
- 11. Defer to him whenever you strongly disagree and can't seem to agree
- 12. Respond and initiate in a physical way
- 13. Focus more on him than the kids, friends and other people or activities
- 14. Share in the fun things he enjoys
- 15. Support his leadership in the home
- 16. Support his leadership in the church
- 17. Support his leadership in the workplace
- 18. Listen to him when he talks about his "stuff"
- 19. Other 1 _____
- 20. Other 2 _____

4. Discussion Questions:

- 4.1 Spend a few minutes catching up on the past week and how applications to these lessons are really going in your home.
- 4.2 How did you do on the above assessment of "acts of submission and respect"?
- 4.3 Discuss how your view of submission is changing from these lessons.
- 4.4 Discuss the specific ways you want to grow from this lesson in your marriage.
- 4.5 What principles are most difficult for you to apply from this lesson?
- 4.6 Update your "Prayer Journal" in the Appendix and pray together.