

Love, Sex and Marriage

Lesson Six • Ephesians 5:22-24

Wives Submit! Are You Kidding?

What Our Culture Won't Tell You:

When biblical HEADSHIP for husbands and biblical SUBMISSION for wives is lived out we experience greater levels of satisfaction in marriage, but when it's deserted, despised or distorted we experience greater levels of dysfunction in marriage!

What Christ Did for Husbands and Wives:

Christ RESCUED the roles of husbands and wives from the ravages of sin for our good and God's glory.

God's Command to Wives in Ephesians 5:22-24

The Role: *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. vs. 22*

The Reason: *For the husband is the head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. vs. 23*

The Responsibility: *Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. vs. 24*

God's Command to Wives:

1. What Does It Mean for a Wife to Submit to Her Husband?

Example of Submission: *1Peter 3:1-6*

Definition of Submission: Submission is the divine calling of a wife to honor and affirm her husband's leadership and help carry it through according to her gifts. *(by John Piper)*

- Submission means RESPONDING to your husband's lead. *Eph. 5:23*
- Submission involves RESPECTING your husband as leader. *Eph. 5:33*

What Submission Is Not:

- Submission does not mean putting your husband in the place of CHRIST.
- Submission does not mean surrendering your thought or INFLUENCE.
- Submission does not mean following your husband into SIN.

2. Why Should a Wife Submit to Her Husband?

- Submission is a result of God's original created ORDER. *Eph. 5:23*
- Submission is a mark of being filled with the SPIRIT. *Eph. 5:18*
- Submission is an expression of following CHRIST as Lord. *Eph. 5:22*

3. How Can a Wife Find Dignity in Submitting to Her Husband?

- Realize submission does not lessen your VALUE or diminish your significance in God's Kingdom. *Genesis 1:26-27 Galatians 3:26-28 1Peter 3:7*
- Realize submission is PRECIOUS to God and should be honored by husbands. *1Peter 3:4*
- Realize submission is the path to experiencing true JOY as a wife. *Ephesians 5:18-21*

What Holds Wives Back from Living Out God's Role of Submission?

In one word: FEAR!

So how do you triumph over these fears? You TRUST in God.

For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror. 1Peter 3:5-6