

Submission: Not What You Think It Is
Ephesians 5:22
Sunday a.m. 6/4/2017

✧ **Review**

Ephesians 5:1-18 is an introduction to our responsibility:

- ✦ We must be imitators of God – **5:1**
- ✦ We must walk in love – **5:2**
- ✦ We must be morally responsible – **5:3-14**
- ✦ We must be filled with the Spirit – **5:15-18**

We live this out in:

- ✦ The Church – **5:19-21**
- ✦ Marriage – **5:22-32**
- ✦ The Home – **6:1-4**
- ✦ The Work Place – **6:5-9**
- ✦ Spiritual Warfare – **6:10-20**

• **Two important factors in marriage**

- ✧ **Your spouse is a one another** **Ephesians 5:21**
- ✧ **Our Marriage Needs to Reflect the Gospel**

■ **Understanding Submission**

- ✧ **We must take submission out of the present day understanding**

submit - military, be under, be in one's control, subordinate

- ❖ The feminist movement of the 70's made submission look military

- ✧ **God's marriage principles, when filtered through the Word of God, instead of the world, make healthier marriages**

- ❖ The non-military definition is a voluntary, cooperation, carrying a burden

- ❖ Submit (hupotasso) is middle voice, showing voluntary subjection
- ❖ The wife's submission to her husband is an act of love to the Lord

as to the Lord - the same manner

❖ **The wife is to regard the obedience she has for her husband as an obedience to Christ**

❖ It is a duty the wife owes too Christ

Wayne Barber

It's not because you love your husband that much, but it is because you love Jesus that much. That is key. As I love the Lord Jesus, I am willing to do whatever it is He tells me to do. A wife's love for Christ motivates her to obey.

❖ Two more important factors in marriage

• **Submission is the evidence of the Spirit filled life**

❖ **Without the filling of the Holy Spirit and submission to Christ, marriage is much more difficult**

Warren Wiersbe

The unity of the church and the harmony of the home both depend on the Spirit. It is power from within, not pressure from without that holds the church and the home together.

• **Submission must be given to Jesus first**

❖ **The wife cannot submit to her husband if she is not submitted to Christ**

❖ Christ is our example of submission

Philippians 2:1-4

❖ Biblical submission shows equality in the eyes of God

1 Corinthians 11:3 (NKJV)

But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.

❖ Christ submitted to God, but they are equal

- ✚ There is no inferiority of man or woman in submission
- ✚ Submission is mutual and voluntary
- ✚ Biblical submission is always about the uplifting of the wife

Submission does not mean:

- ✚ The wife is commanded to obey her husband
- ✚ The wife is inferior, to be stepped on, not appreciated
- ✚ The wife is spiritually inferior

■ **Submission and the unsaved husband**

1 Peter 3:1-2 (NKJV)

Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives, ² when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear.

Saving Your Marriage before It Starts Drs. Les and Lesley Parrott

- ✚ They tell the story of a husband that planned a surprise honeymoon
- ✚ A camping trip...and it rained
- ✚ The wife said that she was going to show her new husband that she could adapt to any circumstance
- ✚ The husband realized the mistake and found a hotel

Have you developed the habit of happiness?

- ⊗ **The one habit that can make or break your relationship is the capacity to adjust to things beyond your control.**
- ⊗ **The most important quality of a marriageable person is the habit of happiness.**

Close