

Walking in Submission **Ephesians 5:21-33**

I. Submission in The Spirit - 5:21

1. The Evidence of being filled with the Spirit
Joyful spirit - 19 - a new song in our heart
Thankful spirit - 20 - in our relationship with God
Submissive spirit - 21 - our relationship with others
2. Submission is key to personal relationships
Not self-seeking, sensitive to needs of others-4:1-3
Spirit control is seen in our every day relationships
At Home in the family relationships
Husbands and wives - 5:22-33
Parents and children - 6:1-4
At Work - Master and servant relationship - 6:5-9

II. Submission of the Wife - 5:22-24

1. Submit to God's Directive - 22
Submitting to husband is submitting to God's will
2. Recognize God's appointed order - 23
God established family with husband as head
God will hold husband accountable for his family
Relationship is a picture of Christ and His Church
The husband is to be her protector & provider
As Christ is the Savior of the Body
3. Accept God's assigned role & fulfill it - 24
As God's will we should trust His wisdom & do it
God's Spirit enables us to do His will
Remember most marriages then were arranged
Being under Spirit's control enabled them to submit
How much more when we made the choice

III. Spiritual Headship

1. Headship does not mean inequality - 1 Cor.11:3
Christ lived under Father's authority but was equal
2. Headship is assigned leadership responsibility
3. Headship is opportunity to serve - Mk. 10:42-45
Pagans use headship to lord it over others
This is not what God wants for those who are His
Leadership is humbly serving those under our care
Christ is our example, how He exercised headship
4. Headship in ministry of Elders - 1 Peter 5:1-3
Not as lords over but examples to the flock
Shepherd serves & cares for the sheep – Psa. 23

IV. Sacrificial Love of Husband - 25-31

1. Husbands are to emulate Christ's love - 25
Christ sacrificed His life to meet needs of His Bride
2. Husbands are to minister to their wife – 26-27
Christ helps His Bride become all she can be
Sanctified, cleansed, a glorious church, without blemish
Husbands ought to help wives reach their potential
3. Husbands to treat their wives tenderly - 28-30
As they would nourish & cherish their own bodies

As Lord tenderly cares for members of His body
4. Husbands are to see wives as their priority - 31

V. Spiritual Picture - 5:32, 33

1. Marriage elevated in this "New Revelation"- 32
God has given us a new pattern for our marriages
Christ's loving leadership is to be our example
Church's submissive following is to be emulated
2. Marriage can show true love to our world - 33
Husbands can show sacrificial love of Christ
Loving wife as his body, providing for her needs
Knowing her – being sensitive to her needs
1 Peter 3:7
Wives can show love & respect of Church for Christ
Loving him and responding to his leadership
Together we can demonstrate what God designed
3. Biblical pattern for marriage
Husband and wife lovingly serving each other
Husband leads as picture of Christ, our Head
Wife lovingly serves as the church serves Christ
Proverbs 31:10-31 gives us this picture