



THE CHRISTIAN DISTINCTION

Ephesians 5:21-6:9

GETTING STARTED

When you think of the Biblical command to “submit”, do you generally consider it in a positive way or a negative way? Why?

- 1 Why is the principle of “mutual submission” (Ephesians 5:21) the key to proper relationships in the church, on the job and in the home?
- 2 Why do you think Paul addresses the supposedly “weaker” party (i.e. wives, children, slaves) first in this passage?
- 3 How does knowing that word “submit” is a military term that describes how a lower ranking serviceman was to respond to one of higher rank affect your understanding of the command for wives to “submit to their own husbands” in v. 22?
- 4 Read verse 23. Pastor Paul stated that this verse conveys both authority and responsibility upon the man as “the head of the wife”. In what way does it convey:
 - Authority:

 - Responsibility:
- 5 What responsibility is imposed upon the husband in verses 25-31?
 - Why might this be considered an even more stringent command than the command to wives to submit to their husbands?
- 6 What is significant about comparing the relationship of Christ and the Church to that of a husband and wife?

- 7 Read Ephesians 6:1-4. In what ways is the principle of “mutual submission” manifested in the parent-child relationship?
- 8 Read Ephesians 6:5-9. Describe the instructions of:
- The worker (slave) to the employer (master):

 - The employer to the employee:

APPLY THE LESSON

Identify one of these three relationships on which you want to concentrate some special attention. Write down two or three specific lessons that you are going to try to put into action to bring that relationship into compliance with these instructions.