

HIS & HERS HIS NEEDS



KEY SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 5.21-33

PURSUE GOD

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church—for we are members of his body. “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

submit [suhb-mit] verb

To give over, to subject or allow oneself to yield to the power or authority of another.

This passage begins with a call for all Christians to submit to each other out of reverence to Jesus, and goes on to describe how a husband should love his wife. One of the first things that comes to mind when we hear the word “submission” is blind obedience. A mentality that says, do what you’re told and don’t ask any questions. Not only that, but there’s also a sense submission is some form of indentured servitude where the person you’re submitting to has little or no regard for your well-being. But that’s not at all what God had in mind when He inspired Paul to write these words. Submission is not one individual’s unrestrained authority over another, but a confident assurance that in submission there is a trust of placing yourself in someone else’s hands.

The role of a husband is not a position of ranking authority, but a relationship based on love for his wife. It is not a role rooted in culture, a role that might change, but one founded in the unchanging truth of God’s Word. Husbands are to lovingly, humbly, and sacrificially lead their homes as Jesus loves and leads the church. He tells husbands; love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her. Jesus is asking the man to love her, lead and keep her, protect and sacrifice for her just as He did for him.

LOVE LIFE

How do I define submission?

How does the Bible define submission?

Where are the two at odds?