

# Seeing **CHRIST** through the Eyes of Luke

---

## **Luke 2:46-52 | Pursuing God's Plan of Authority | 6.13.21**

**John 10:10** *The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

**The thief** has made his way into churches, stole God's plan for authority, redefined it, and has brought confusion and heartache upon many families. The answer to the abuse of authority is not "no authority" but to return to God's definition and plan.

**True discipleship** is not some form of spiritual partnership with Jesus but about ownership, complete devotion, and allegiance to Him.

**1 Corinthians 6:19-20** *Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? <sup>20</sup> For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.*

**Luke 4:4** But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.' "

- "every word of God" - One verse can only say so much. **2 Timothy 3:16**
- When Scripture is taken in pieces it can be misused to justify the abuse of authority and submission. **Matthew 28:20**
- Self-deception is the most dangerous of all deceptions. Such deception comes by being hearers of God's Word but not doers of His Word re: **James 1:16, 22, 26**

**James 2:19** *You believe that there is one God... Even the demons believe—and tremble!*

**Followers of Jesus Christ** should be grieved when placed in a position that leads to resisting authority. There is a way to resist authority that is self-serving and a way to resist authority that seeks to honor God.

**Biblical Leadership** is the divine *position of a husband* to practice consistent Christ-like, servant leadership and protection within the marriage and family.

- Leadership is a God-ordained position.
- Leadership is *not* something we do perfectly.
- Leadership requires that we study the life of Jesus Christ.
- Leadership is done by example (ex. servant leadership, like Christ, husbands lead in serving - **Matthew 20:27-28**).
- Husbands lead in God-honoring communication (**Ephesians 4:25-30**).
- Husbands lead in expressing forgiveness (**Ephesians 4:32**).
- Husbands lead in modeling humility (**James 4:10**).
- Husbands lead in encouragement (nourishing and cherishing - **Acts 11:23**).
- Husbands lead in wise delegation (**2 Corinthians 8:22**).
- Husbands lead in generosity (**2 Corinthians 9:7**).

**Ephesians 5:25-27** *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,<sup>26</sup> that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,<sup>27</sup> that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.*

Why are men given an unrealistic command to love their wives as Christ loved the church?

- Christ is our greatest example. If any man were used as an example, we would discover inconsistencies and loopholes to escape responsibility (**1 Peter 2:21**).
- To drive men to humbly seek **God's grace**, to desire such a command, and to have the ability to consistently apply them (**Philippians 2:12-14**).
- Though we cannot fulfill the command perfectly we can fulfill it consistently (**2 Thessalonians 3:9**).
- To create patience and longsuffering within men for the inconsistencies and weaknesses of their wives and children (**Col. 3:19, Ephesians 6:1**).
- A husband is not called to create his own commands. His task is to learn what the commands of Christ and share them with his family (**Matthew 28:10**).
- Possibly to help wives rejoice that God gave such a task to husbands and not to them (**Colossians 3:18**).
- To provide incentives for wives to encourage and help their husbands in his most challenging responsibility (**Ephesians 5:33**).

**Biblical Submission** is the *divine position of a wife* to honor and affirm her husband's leadership position and help him practice according to her gifts.

- God is the one who established this role (**1 Peter 3:1-7**).
- A wife must seek God's grace to desire and practice this while her husband is still in his sanctification process (**2 Peter 3:17-18**).
- "Honor" is to give proper recognition to her husband's position and "affirming" is the wise use of her words for encouragement (**Ephesians 5:33, Pro. 15:1**).
- A wife should be clear to her husband that she is his biggest fan (**Heb. 10:24**).
- A wife should try to relate to the burden a husband carries having a task to model Christ-like servant love leadership (**Galatians 6:2**).
- A wife should *not* play the role of the Holy Spirit and learn it is God's job to change her husband (**Philippians 1:6**).
- A wife and husband must understand that submission in "everything" means "everything that honors Jesus Christ" (**1 Corinthians 10:31**).

**Ephesians 5:21-23** *submitting to one another in the fear of God. Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.<sup>23</sup> For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.<sup>24</sup> Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.<sup>22</sup> Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.*

- See the GBC Resource Center for insightful and helpful material.
- "How to Appeal to Authority" is available at the back table on at [gbcmason.org/media/study-guides](http://gbcmason.org/media/study-guides)