

Identity Theft: Who Do You Think You Are?

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

The Wise Wife

Ephesians 5:18-24

“And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ. Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.”

What Submission is NOT

What Submission is

Why Does God Call Husbands to Love and Wives to Submit?

For further thought and discussion:

Getting Started:

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What raised questions?
2. Why might women in America have trouble with these verses?

Going Deeper:

3. Please read Eph. 5:15-22. Why is it important that Paul's instructions to the married be seen in context with the preceding verses? What does this tell you about a successful marriage?
4. How would you answer the following arguments against wives submitting to their husband?

Submission is based on discrimination against women and lowers the inherent dignity God has given to women.

The biblical command to submit makes women vulnerable to abuse by their husbands.

Submission encourages the abdication of personal responsibility and makes women helpless and powerless.

Submissiveness is a personality type and makes strong women "unspiritual."

5. Why must submission be a voluntary choice?
6. Why must submission be a choice based on our faith in Christ?
7. Why must submission be a choice based on our faith in God's design for the family?
8. What does a wife's submission mean for her practically?
9. Do you have any further questions about this passage?

Application:

What is one thing you have learned from this discussion you can apply this week?