

The Role of the Wife

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I. Introduction.

- A. One's Christianity affects all of his or her relationships.
- B. Submission must begin in the home because it is the basis of all human relationships.
- C. Text: Ephesians 5:22-23.
- D. In one way or another, we all must submit.
 - 1. Husbands submit to their wives by loving them.
 - 2. They love to the extent of giving their own lives.
- E. Wives are to submit to their husbands.

II. To submit means obey.

- A. A wife is not a slave or servant.
- B. There is intimacy implied by "your own husband."
- C. Submission is divinely ordained.
- D. It is in a sense legally binding. (Colossians 3)

III. It is not popular because a humanistic philosophy has been pushed upon us.

IV. Submission must be both internal (reverence) and outward.

- A. A woman should not violate the place of submission in society. Women's hair grows faster than men's, so it is a sign that women were to be submissive. (1 Corinthians 11)
- B. Wives are to be characteristic husband lovers. (Titus 2)
- C. Younger women were to work at home. (Mark 13:34, John 4:34; 17; Philippians 2:30)
 - 1. Older women are to teach younger women.
 - 2. The godly woman has more concern over her own family than her own comfort. (Proverbs 31)
 - 3. Home is the base for enterprise.

V. The manner of submission is as unto the Lord.

VI. The motive is that the husband is head of the wife.

VI. The model of submission is Christ who is head over the body.

A. The husband is the protector and provider.

B. Wives do not need to be co-providers and protectors.

Application Questions:

1. How would you respond to someone who says that submission is demeaning?

2. What does it practically look like for a wife to submit to her husband? Are there limits?

3. Is a wife's submission conditioned upon his love for her? Defend your answer.
