



**WORD**

<sup>22</sup>Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup>For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. <sup>24</sup>Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.  
Ephesians 5:22-24

**WHAT** *What does the Bible say?*

Submission is sometimes seen as a sign of weakness or yielding to another because of one’s feeling of inferiority in value. However, on the contrary, submission is a noble virtue that is part of God’s plan, which is not just for wives but also for everyone. Let us discover some ways we can practice submission according to God’s Word.

- **Submit to one another.**  
*Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.*

Ephesians 5:21  
(Also read James 4:4-7.)

Ultimately, as the Bible says, we submit to God because of who He is—how He zealously pursued sinners like us through Christ’s work on the cross. As our Maker and our Savior, He has every right to us. When we believe this, we learn to submit to others out of reverence for Christ. What does it mean to revere Christ?

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- **Submit to authorities.**  
<sup>13</sup>Submit yourselves for the Lord’s sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, <sup>14</sup>or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.  
1 Peter 2:13,14

Submission to authority is a reflection of God’s order and rule (1 Corinthians 14:33). Regardless of whether or not these people in authority are honorable, submitting to them is expressing our faith in God who is in control (Romans 13:1-5). In what ways can you express your submission to authority?

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- **Submit to your husbands (for wives).**  
<sup>1</sup>Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, <sup>2</sup>when they see the purity and reverence of your lives.  
1 Peter 3:1,2

A wife’s submission to her husband is the most beautiful and powerful picture of the church yielding to Christ’s headship. Coupled with the husband loving his wife, this completes the image of how God designed marriage to reflect His glory here on earth. No other human covenant was chosen by God for this purpose! On whose account do wives ought to submit to their husbands?

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**SO WHAT** *What is the relevance of the Word to my life?*

- When you submit to someone, do you feel like you are a lesser being or do you have the sense of dignity and honor?
- Do you find yourself submitting out of fear of punishment rather than reverence or devotion to God? In what instances?
- Which of the following ways of submission do you find difficult? Why is it so?

**NOW WHAT** *How do I apply the Word to my life?*

- In what ways can you start obeying God’s command to submit to one another? How do you plan to do these starting this week?
- How will you improve on the way you speak of civil authorities? What can you start praying about the leaders in your community?
- For wives, how can you honor your husbands starting this week? How will you teach your children to honor their fathers?