

WOMEN OF STRENGTH

1 Peter 3.1-6

WHAT IS SUBMISSION? : VERSES 1 AND 2

Genesis 3.16, 4.7, 8 // Ephesians 5.21-33 // Colossians 3.18-25 // 1 Timothy 3.11

Likewise: This word is important, because it points to the previous examples of submission and humble service. Submission is not just a marriage issue. It's a worship issue.

Submission is not inferiority; it is Godlike.

-P.T. Forsyth

Wives' own husbands: It's important to note that this is not calling women to subject to ALL men, but specifically wives to their *own* husbands.

Submission is NOT:

- Agreeing with husband 100%
- Not having your own opinion or uniqueness
- Avoiding all efforts to see change in husband
- Putting husband's will above God's will
- Does not mean getting all your spiritual strength from your husband
- Does not mean living out of fear or in total silence; it is not degrading

Submission IS:

- A reflection of the Trinity; it is Christ-like
- God's design for us as complementary equals in His image
- A desire to lovingly follow as a partner
- Delighting in seeing your husband succeed in godly leadership
- Delighting in seeing your gifts be used to build a marriage God's way
- A result of many fruits of the Spirit: humility, patience, selflessness, joy, peace, etc.

WHAT DOES GODLINESS LOOK LIKE?: VERSES 3-6

Titus 2.3-8

**A girl should be so lost in God
that a man has to seek HIM in order to find her.**

-Talitha Piper, John Piper's Daughter, age 10

HOW CAN YOU GROW IN IT?

- Seek out other godly women who specifically exemplify the character traits of **Titus 2.3-8, 1 Peter 3.1-6**, and other passages on biblical womanhood.
- Read from good, Gospel-centered resources:
 - **Feminine Appeal** by Carolyn Mahaney
 - **The Excellent Wife** by Martha Peace
 - **Idols of the Heart** by Elyse Fitzpatrick
- Learn to repent daily. Examine your heart for the idols that you go after. Ask trusted friends, including your spouse, to help you spot them. This is very difficult to do humbly, but it must be done.
www.lifemissionchurch.com/blog/tag/idolatry/

NOTES:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GPS MEETING TOMORROW

Come join us for our monthly **GPS (Gospel Positioning Strategy) Meeting**. We'll have a time of worship, reflecting on what God has been doing among us, and a look toward our future. We'll have a special guest, **Ted Lawler** of **Breath of Heaven Children's Village** here to meet us and share his vision for what God is doing in **Zambia, Africa**. Join us at **6.30pm** right here at **Gateway**. **Childcare is provided**.

SERMON CDs AVAILABLE

If you would like a copy of the sermon from today's service, go to the sound booth in the back right after service. They will make one just for you!

Also, make sure to not just watch, but also subscribe to our **YouTube Channel**, which is at youtube.com/LifeMissionTV. You will get notified AS SOON as our sermons and short videos go up online!

KIDS ON MISSION

Please log on to check out www.lifemissionchurch.com and click "Kids" at the top to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walk through of our curriculum.

Also, the daily devotional book, **Long Story Short**, is available in the Atrium to purchase.

WANT TO GET CONNECTED?

- **SIGN UP FOR A COMMUNITY GROUP!**
If you want to get connected to a group of people near your neighborhood, let us know by filling out the **Connection Card** or visiting the **Connection Booth** in the Atrium!
- **JOIN THE TEAM!**
We would love to have you come serve our community with us. Let us know on our **Connection Card** that you want to help!

SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

What stuck out to you the most or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday? _____

Read **1 Peter 3.1-6**. What words or thoughts through these first few verses jump out at you? _____

What words come to mind when you hear the word "submission"? _____

What words do you think *should* come to mind? _____

Why is it so hard for us to like the idea of submission? What is the solution to be able to embrace it and enjoy it? _____

Read **Genesis 3.16**. How would you interpret this text? _____

Now read **Genesis 4.7**. The same words "desire" and "rule" are used in **3.16** and **4.7**. Knowing that, how does the context of **4.7** help interpret the context of **3.16**?

Knowing **4.7** shows us that woman's "desire" is not a romantic, loving desire, because we know that sin's desire for us is not romantic, but dominating. This is why we know studying in context objectively is so important. When we admit and recognize that our motives are often faulty and self-seeking, we take a step toward real freedom and strength.

At this point, it would be best to break into men and women's groups. **For the married women**, when is it the hardest for you to be submitted and be led by your husband? **For the single and married men and single women**, in what area of life is it most difficult to be led and be humble, like the example given in **1 Peter 2.13-25**? Be *very careful* to not gossip during this time of ministry and prayer.

To help figure this out more, go to www.lifemissionchurch.com/blog/tag/idolatry/ read the two articles. Identifying your idols often leads to identifying where you have major holdouts when it comes to submitting to Christ. How do your findings help you identify what areas you have trouble with when it comes to submission?

Paul specifically mentions outward appearance as a common idol that women in particular find "life" in. For men and women, what ways do you struggle with finding identity in the outward? What would a good strategy be to combat that?

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