



# *I Am Woman, Let's Restore*

## *A Biblical Study on Womanhood*

***Biblical Womanhood in Marriage and Motherhood***  
***Ephesians 5, Colossians 3, 1 Peter 3, Titus 2***  
*February 27, 2008*

- Paul's instruction on marriage is the development of what it means to be \_\_\_\_\_.

"[The relationship between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit] is one of leadership and authority on the one hand and voluntary, willing, joyful submission to that authority on the other hand. We can learn from this that submission to a rightful authority is a noble virtue. It is a privilege. It is something good and desirable. It is the virtue that has been demonstrated by the eternal Son of God forever. It is His glory, the glory of the Son as He relates to His Father." - Wayne Grudem

- God's ultimate intention for headship and submission is to reflect the relationship of \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Husbands: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Wives

Love (*Agapao*)—a sacrificial, giving, active type of love

Gave (*Paradidomi*)—to surrender or to yield up

### Instruction to husbands in 1 Peter 3:

- 1) Peter commands the husband to consider carefully his wife's needs and desires; to live with her " \_\_\_\_\_ " (NASB).
- 2) Peter instructs husbands to treat their wives " \_\_\_\_\_ " or " \_\_\_\_\_," which means to value, honor, or esteem them to the highest degree; to consider them as being very precious; to recognize their dignity.
- 3) Peter reminds husbands of the \_\_\_\_\_ they share with their wives before Christ; they are fellow heirs of the gift of life.
- 4) Peter reminds husbands that to disregard these instructions is to \_\_\_\_\_ against God himself, which will separate them from his fatherly blessings.



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What Submission Means:

Submit (*Hupotasso*) - a military term meaning to rank under; literally means "under an orderly arrangement". Thus, it means to obey, to submit, to subordinate, or to subject oneself. *Hupotasso* is used to describe numerous biblical authority structures, including:

- Jesus to his parents (Luke 2:51)
- Demons to the disciples (Luke 10:17)
- Citizens to civil authorities (Rom. 13:1, 5; Tit. 3:1, 1 Pet 2:13)
- The universe to Christ (1 Cor 15:27; Eph 1:22)
- Unseen spiritual powers to Christ (1 Pet 3:22)
- Christ to God the Father (1 Cor 15:28)
- Church members to church leaders (1 Cor 16:15-16; 1 Pet 5:5)
- Wives to their husbands (Col 3:18; Tit 2:5; 1 Pet 3:5)
- The church to Christ (Eph 5:24)
- Servants to their masters (Tit 2:9; 1 Pet 2:18)
- Christians to God (Heb 12:9; Jas 4:7)

"Submission is the divine calling of a wife to honor and affirm her husband's leadership and help carry it through according to her gifts. It's the disposition to follow a husband's authority and an inclination to yield to his leadership. It is an attitude that says, "I delight for you to take the initiative in our family. I am glad when you take responsibility for things and lead with love. I don't flourish in the relationship when you are passive and I have to make sure the family works." - John Piper

1) Submission is an \_\_\_\_\_  
that affirms the leadership of the husband.

- "Holy women who \_\_\_\_\_." (1 Peter 3:3-5)
- Hope in God leads to \_\_\_\_\_ in the face of the future.
- And fearlessness leads to an \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- And that spirit expresses itself in a unique kind of \_\_\_\_\_.

2) "Submit to \_\_\_\_\_ husbands"

3) "As to the \_\_\_\_\_"

"The catch is that submission, from a biblical perspective, is determined, not by worthiness of the person to whom we submit, but by the worthiness of the person who calls us to submit: 'Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ' " (Ephesians 5:21). - Gary Thomas

4) "Submit in \_\_\_\_\_"



What Submission Does Not Mean:

- 1) Submission does not mean putting a husband in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Submission does not mean giving up \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Submission does not mean a wife should give up efforts to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ her husband.
- 4) Submission does not mean a wife should give in to every \_\_\_\_\_  
of her husband.
- 5) Submission is not based on lesser \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6) Submission does not mean being \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7) Submission is not inconsistent with \_\_\_\_\_.

"Marriage is not mainly about staying in love. It's about covenant keeping. And the main reason it is about covenant keeping is that God designed the relationship between a husband and his wife to represent the relationship between Christ and the church. This is the deepest meaning of marriage. And that is why ultimately the roles of headship and submission are so important. If our marriages are going to tell the truth about Christ and his church, we cannot be indifferent to the meaning of headship and submission. And let it not go without saying that God's purpose for the church - and for the Christian wife who represents it - is her everlasting joy." - John Piper

Application:

3. Titus 2:3-5

- The virtues that follow are \_\_\_\_\_!
- The reason for obeying these virtues is the \_\_\_\_\_.

"The world doesn't judge us by our theology; the world judges us by our behavior. People don't necessarily want to know what we believe about the Bible. They want to see if what we believe makes a difference in our lives. Our actions either bring honor to God or misrepresent His truth."  
- Carolyn Mahaney

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ their husbands and \_\_\_\_\_  
their own husbands.

Love (*Phileo*)—It is a tender, affectionate, passionate kind of love.



## 2) Love their \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 127:3-5)

"What is the ultimate purpose of phileo kind of love? It is nothing less than the salvation of our children's souls. This is the chief end of mothering. Our goal is not that our children be happy, fulfilled, and successful. Granted, we may desire these things for them. But our highest objective should be that our children would repent from their sins, put their trust in Jesus Christ, and reflect the gospel to the world around them." - Carolyn Mahaney

"I seldom feel like much of an adventurer - standing in this kitchen, pouring cereal into bowls, refilling them, handing out paper towels when the inevitable cry comes: "Uh oh. I spilled." But sometimes at night the thought will strike me: There are three small people here, breathing sweetly in their beds, whose lives are for the moment in our hands. I might as well be at the controls of a moon shot; the mission is so grave and vast." - Joyce Maynard

Application:

## 3) Workers at \_\_\_\_\_

"For more than thirty years the women's movement has told us that we would be happier, more fulfilled human beings if we left our homes and children and went out to work. To the degree that we might feel misgivings or guilt about leaving our babies to others to raise, we have been assured that such feelings are imposed upon us by society, and sexist - no more normal for a mother to experience than a father. Instead, we've been taught to suppress these worries and to put our work ahead of our families or at the very least, to attempt to 'balance' the demands of boss and baby." - Danielle Crittenden

Scripture is clear that men are responsible to be the \_\_\_\_\_  
for the home (1 Tim. 5:8), while women are responsible to be the  
\_\_\_\_\_ of the home (Titus 2:5, 1 Tim. 5:14, Prov. 31).

What about working outside the home? When we contemplate opportunities outside of the home, we must first consider what consequences they might have on our families and we must evaluate our motives. Here are some good questions to ask:

- What are my reasons for considering this opportunity? Are they selfish or God-honoring?
- Will pursuing this venture glorify God and honor the gospel?
- Is this an undertaking that will help my husband?
- Will this enhance and enrich the lives of my family?
- Does this endeavor hinder my role as caretaker of my home?

Application:



## Week 4 Questions to Ponder

1. Reflect on the talk, *Biblical Womanhood in Marriage and Motherhood*. How were you challenged most from this talk?
2. How does it make you feel when you hear about the calling and role of husbands in marriage (primarily that they are called to love their wives like “Christ loved the church”)? Explain.
3. After listening to the talk, what is the biblical understanding of submission? Has your view of submission changed or grown? Explain.
4. Who are the unbelievers (friends, neighbors, family) watching your life? How do you think you can make the gospel attractive by modeling an Ephesians 5 marriage and the virtues in Titus 2?
5. What sin most commonly robs you of a tender (phileo) love for your husband (anger, bitterness, criticism, pride, selfishness, fear, laziness, etc.)? If you are single, what sin most commonly robs you of loving/respecting men? How can you keep your heart from this sin?
6. What would your family (roommates) say about your typical attitude at home? What is one way you can grow in creating a joyful atmosphere in your home?
7. In what ways have you been influenced by feminist ideology concerning being a “worker at home”? What changes do you need to implement in order to fulfill the biblical commission given in Scripture to be a “worker at home”?
8. Spend some time this week reading and writing your observations from Proverbs 31:10-31 and the Book of Ruth. Note the qualities you see of biblical womanhood and femininity from these passages.

