

**Jason Huffman**  
**Ephesians 5:21**  
**Walking in Submission**  
**7/21/24**

**Group Leader Guide**

Pastor Jason's message delves into the importance of submission in the Christian walk, emphasizing wisdom, humility, and maturity. We learned that submission is not about oppression but about working together, following order, and achieving goals. Submission is a voluntary choice rooted in faith and wisdom. Ultimately, submission is about valuing others and aligning oneself with God's mission.

**Discussion Questions**

How can practicing submission deepen our faith and help us in our Christian walk?

- Pastor Jason explained that submission is a wise and beneficial practice for Christians, rooted in wisdom and the fear of God.
- Can you share a personal experience where submitting to someone else's guidance or authority in a situation helped you grow in your faith?

What makes submission a sign of maturity, humility and strength in a person?

- Pastor Jason mentioned that being willing to yield requires humility, strength, and maturity. It is a mark of maturity to be able to work together and control oneself.
- In what ways have you seen people demonstrate humility and maturity through submission, whether in your life or in the lives of others around you?

How does Ephesians 5:21 guide us in applying the concept of submission?

- In Ephesians 5:21, we are instructed to submit to one another in the fear of God.
- How can you specifically apply Ephesians 5:21 in your relationship with family members, friends, coworkers, and other believers in your community?

How should we approach situations where we choose not to submit in order to follow God?

- Pastor Jason acknowledged sometimes we may choose not to submit, particularly when following God instead of men.
- Was there a time when you faced a difficult decision between submitting to someone else's request and following what you believed God wanted from you? How did you handle the situation and what did you learn from it?

Why is it important to understand the difference between submission and subjection?

- Pastor Jason distinguished submission as a voluntary act rooted in wisdom and value, while subjection is something imposed or forced on someone.
- Have you ever felt forced into a decision or action that went against your beliefs? How did you handle the situation, and what would you do differently now with the understanding of submission versus subjection?

**Prayer Ideas**

- Pray for God to help us understand and embrace true submission in our daily lives.
  - Ask God for the humility, strength, and maturity to yield to others as a mark of wisdom.
  - Pray that we might align our personal missions with God's greater mission.
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### **Teaching Notes:**

#### **Title: Walking in Submission**

#### **Submission has become a trigger word for a lot of people.**

...But submission isn't a bad thing, it is actually a wise thing.

**James 3:17** But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

#### **Big Idea:**

**Submission is a way to effectively reach an objective.**

**21 submitting to one another in the fear of God.**

#### **The greek word here for submitting is hoop-ot-as'-so.**

2 root words are "of, by or under" and "put in order/appoint."

A military term meaning "to arrange [troop divisions] in a military fashion under the command of a leader"

#### **Sub: "under" & mission "to send, or let go".**

...as in a military mission, mission-ary or mission trip.

#### **1. Submission is about action & order not value & importance.**

**Sometimes this needs to be taught** by someone that sees the big picture like a teacher, coach, parent, or leader.

**Paul says, "In the fear of God"**

#### **2. Submission puts my mission under God's mission.**

**It takes humility & faith to let God's mission take priority.**

**AND even more humility and faith to submit to God...**

...in submitting to others.

#### **3. Submission works best when complementary.**

Submitting one to another in the fear of God is not about letting everyone else go first.

Submission is using all you know, & doing all you can do for the accomplishment of the mission while doing it in your place and in God's order.

#### 4. Submission isn't subjection.

**Biblical submission is a choice made by faith not by force.**

**The classic trap of submission is to think we can't think or take action w/o being told & we have to do everything blindly.**

#### **Are there times when we don't submit?**

**Submission to men is not absolute, we still use wisdom.**

Acts 5:29 - "We must obey God rather than men" when told to stop preaching the gospel.

Daniel 3 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to bow to King Nebuchadnezzar's golden image

Exodus 1:17 - "But the midwives feared God and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive.

1 Samuel 25 Abigail did not submit to her husband Nabal's foolishness & acted to protect her household & David's men.

**And in those times we should use James 3:17...**

**James 3:17** But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

#### 5. Submission glorifies God & blesses people.

**Whether we are in leadership or if people are over us...**

...we should all be focused on the glory of God, the fulfillment of His mission, & the benefit of His people.

**For equations to work, both sides are equally valued...**

**...but an order is followed so the equation can be solved.**

**And your responsibility is your side of the equation.**