

THE DEEPER LIFE – Impact: A Family Affair
Colossians 3:18–21

Family is a force for change!

"And let me offer lesson number one about America: All great change in America begins at the dinner table." – President Ronald Reagan

If our faith is not a reality at home first, it will not be a reality anywhere else!

Submit – hupotasso: to arrange under, to subordinate.

It was a Greek military term (hupotasso) meaning “to arrange (troops/divisions) in a military fashion under the command of a leader. In non-military use, it was a voluntary attitude of giving in, cooperating, assuming responsibility.

"The badge of rank that an officer wears on his coat is really a symbol of servitude to his men." - Maj. Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor

Title husband – a badge of servitude.

Submission and love - Ephesians 5.

Unbelieving spouse - **1 Corinthians 7:13-16**. In **Ephesians 5** we find a **twofold** prerequisite:

(1) Be filled. (v.17, 18).

(2) Mutual submission. (v.21)

Motivation, not by manipulation, but **reverential fear of God!**

Husbands - “love you wives as Christ loves the church!” (Ephesians 5:25).

Three ways (Ephesians 5) a husband can love his wife:

(1) Love her sacrificially. (v.25).

(2) Love her spiritually. (v.26).

Note: *If a man is not washing his wife with the word, he is not loving his wife!*

(3) Love her caringly. Nurturing and Cherishing - (v.28-30).

Nourishes – *ektrepho: to nourish up to maturity.*

Cherishes – *thalpo: warm, keep warm; foster with tender care.*

“...do not be bitter toward them.”

(Hebrews 12:15) “...looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled.”

Bitter: *pikraino* (pi-krai-no) - to make bitter.

Two steps remedy to bitterness:

(1) Confess sin to God. 1 John 1:9.

(2) Confess sin (your part/not her part) to wife.

(James 5:16) Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

Next - Father-child relationship! (Colossians 3:20, 21).

“Do not provoke your children” – Provoke: stir up.

(Ephesians 6:4) And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

Psalm 127:3-5.

CONCLUSION: Christ is our revolution! His habitation makes a house a home!

(Psalm 26:8) Lord, I have loved the habitation of Your house, And the place where Your glory dwells.