

THE MASTER'S PLAN

Ephesians

RIGHT
ATRIUM

INFERIOR
VENA CAVA

AORTA

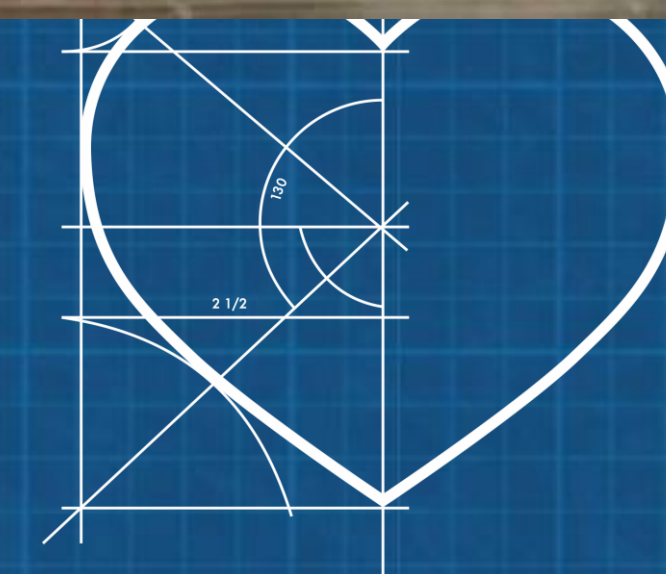
PULMONARY
ARTERY

AORTIC
VALVE

Today's Topic:

“Wives submit to your husbands in everything”

**Illustration purposes only*

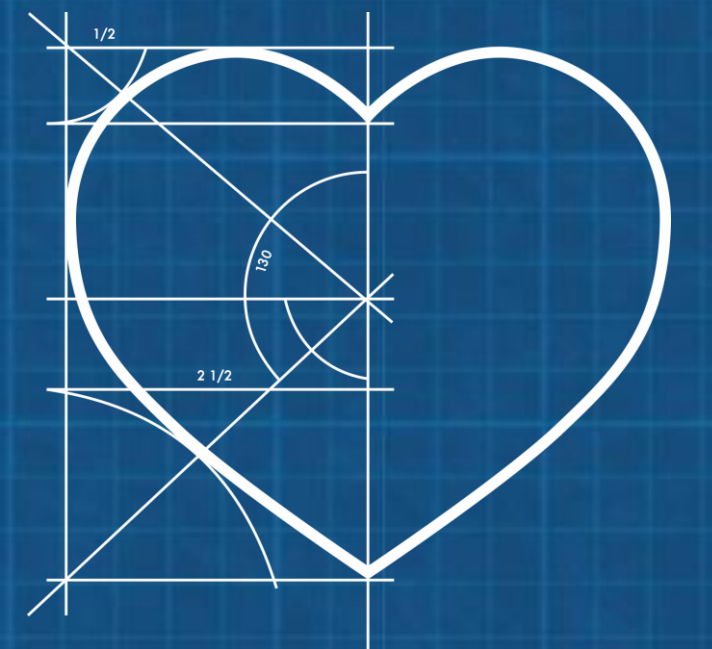


The Forbidden Word (*Submit*)

Ephesians 5:22–24

Main Point: submitting to your husband is an act of submission to God

- A. What Are the Verses Actually Saying?
- B. How to Dilute the Passage
- C. Why is This so Hard?



EPHESIANS:
THE MASTER'S PLAN

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1:1–3:21 | 4:1–6:24 |
| Beliefs – What Jesus has done | Behavior – How we should live |
| Only Two Commands | Over Sixty Commands! |

- Don't lie (4:25)
- Don't be angry (4:26)
- Don't steal (4:27)
- Don't tear people down with your speech (4:29)
- Don't grieve the HS (4:30)
- Be kind (4:32)
- Be imitators of God (5:1)
- Don't covet (5:3)
- Don't be sexually immoral (5:3)
- Don't be deceived (5:6)
- Make the best use of your time (5:16)
- Don't get drunk (5:18)
- Be filled with the HS (5:21)
- Etc.

New Section:

How to Behave in the Home (5:22–6:9)

| | Wives/Husbands | Children/Parents | Slaves/Masters |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Eph 5:22–6:9 | Wives: 3 verses Husbands: 9 verses | Children: 3 verses Parents: 1 verse | Slaves: 4 verses Masters: 1 verse |
| Col 3:18–4:1 | Wives: 1 verse Husbands: 1 verse | Children: 1 verse Parents: 1 verse | Slaves: 4 verse Masters 1 verse |
| 1 Pet 2:18–3:7 | Wives: 6 verses Husbands: 1 verse | *Not addressed | Slaves: 4 verses Masters: 0 verses |
| 1 Tim 2:8–15; 6:1–2 | Women: 8 verses Husbands: *Not addressed | *Not addressed | Slaves: 2 verses Masters: *Not addressed |
| Titus 2:1–10 | Women: 3 verses Husbands: *Not addressed | *Not addressed | Slaves: 2 verses Masters: *Not addressed |

The Forbidden Word (submit)

Ephesians 5:22–24

A. What are the verses actually saying?

1. Voluntary submission

The Forbidden Word (submit)

Ephesians 5:22–24

A. What are the verses actually saying?

1. Voluntary submission

Objection: what if the shoe were on the other foot?





Ephesus civic agora and small theater aerial



Ephesus view west from fountain of Trajan





Ephesus Great Theater and commercial agora aerial



ILLYRICUM
Romans 15:19

2 Corinthians written

ASIA

"All who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord."
Acts 19:10

I am ready not only to be bound, but to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus (Acts 21:13)

Ephesus City or region mentioned during Paul's 3rd Journey

- 1** Paul's journey to Ephesus and focus on Asia, Acts 18:23-19:41
More than two year ministry in Ephesus (Acts 19:1-10)
- 2** Greece: Macedonia and Achaia, Acts 20:1-3
- 3** Return Journey to Jerusalem, Acts 20:3-21:17

0 Mi. 50 100 150
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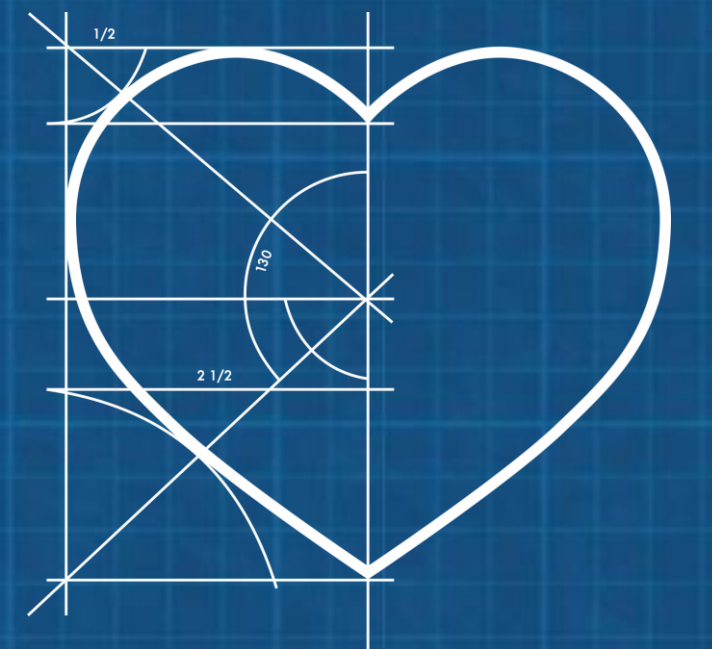
Ephesians 5:22–24

A. What are the verses actually saying?

1. Voluntary submission
2. To your *husbands*

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is
neither slave nor free, there is no male and
female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Gal 3:28



The Forbidden Word (submit)

Ephesians 5:22–24

A. What are the verses actually saying?

1. Voluntary submission
2. To your *husbands*
3. In everything

The Forbidden Word (submit)

Ephesians 5:22–24

A. What are the verses actually saying?

B. How to dilute the passage

- 1. The old classic: it's an addition!**
- 2. Newer version: not a timeless command**
- 3. Mutual submission**
- 4. If all else fail: semantics**

The Forbidden Word (submit)

Ephesians 5:22–24

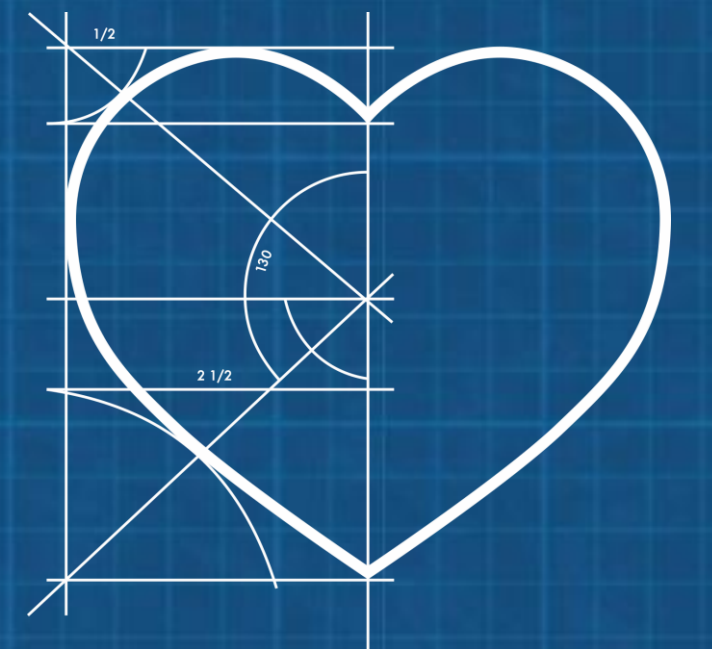
- A. What are the verses actually saying?
- B. How to dilute the passage

You can't water it down

Not the slip of the pen

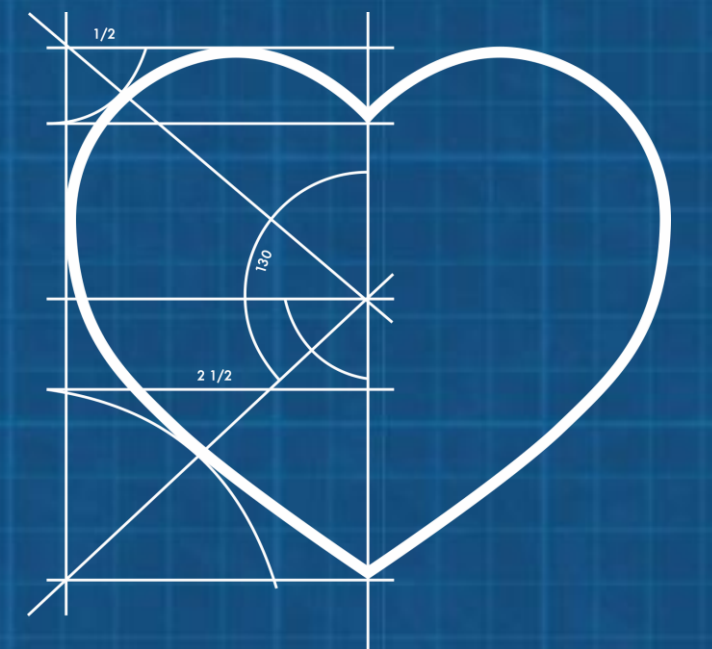
²² **Wives, submit to your own husbands**, as to the Lord. ²³
For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is
the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior.
²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives
should submit in everything to their husbands.

Eph 5:22–24



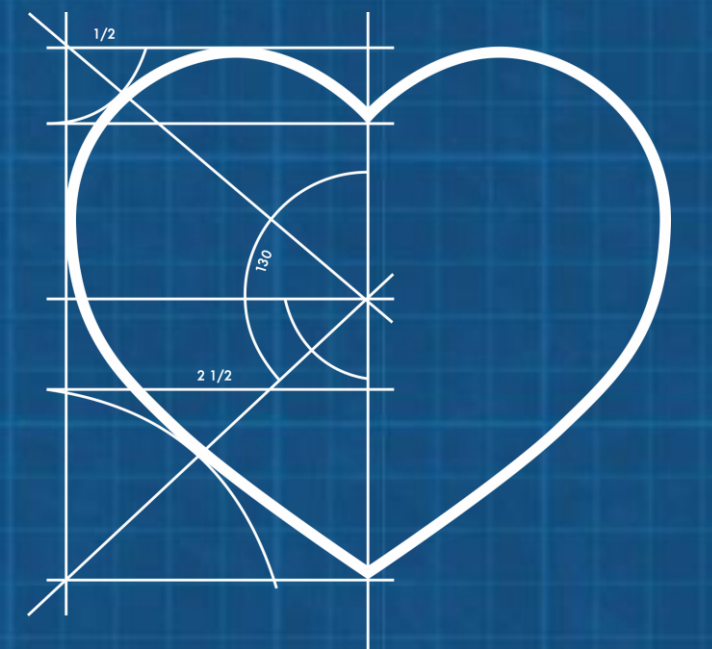
Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

Col 3:18



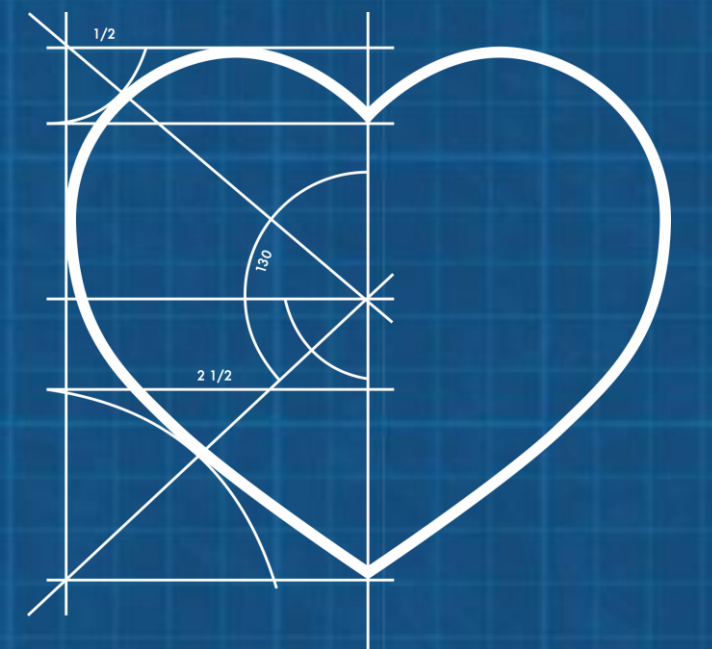
¹Likewise, **wives, be subject to your own husbands**, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, ²when they see your respectful and pure conduct.

1 Peter 3:1–2



³Older **women** likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, ⁴and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, ⁵ to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and **submissive to their own husbands**, that the word of God may not be reviled.

Titus 2:3–5



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Ephesians 5:22–24

A. What are the verses actually saying?

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Paul really is saying: submitting to your husband is an act of submission to God

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Ephesians 5:22–24

- A. What are the verses actually saying?
- B. How to dilute the passage
- C. Why is this so hard?

Pride

Culture

Husbands

➤ **The secret sauce: be filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph 5:18)**

Main Point: submitting to your husband is an act of submission to God

