

Wordless Sermons

I. Slide1a Intro: family responsibilities

- A. **Practical Pete strikes again.** Last week he opened this topic of *submission/subject* to authority. He continues with that theme of *wives being subject to their own husbands*. Next week, we will talk about *husbands and every believers responsibility* if they desire to *love life and see good days*.
- B. **Kelly & I** - We don't have a perfect marriage. *Never met anyone who has.*
1. Not even **Jesus**, His marriage isn't perfect **yet**, because **we** are his spouse. *We cheat on Him. We don't trust Him at times. We don't want to submit to Him at times. And we cast longing eyes on others, rather than Jesus.*
 2. *Our years together* have been years of learning & growth, difficulty, delight & discovery, **heartaches & tragedies**, hurtful times & ecstatic one's
 3. **Slide1b** Our 1st date was Feb.1979. **Sea Fare Inn, Whittier.**
 - a) **3-things** that summed up the beg of the night: *Butter on my chin. zipper was down. & then I tripped over a concrete car-stop.*
 4. **Married 38 years now, dated 5 before that.**
 5. **Marriage isn't the blurring together of 2 lives, Kelly is still Kelly.**
 - a) She is strong, smart, godly, gifted, very giving, loves her God, & loves people. She is a *very dedicated mom & grandma*. Runs our finances. Very organized. She saves/I spend. Has always taken care of herself. She's beautiful (*foxy*).
- C. **Slide2 Historical Context:** Sometimes *Christianity* is seen as *suppressing* women. *That can't be farther than the truth*. The churches that Peter is writing to has **Greeks, Romans, & Jews** in them.¹
1. **In Greek culture wives led difficult lives.**

¹ The Exemplary Husband; pg.196

a) They viewed their wives lower than themselves. They usually had many concubines. Their wife's role basically consisted of bearing children & doing housework.

b) Demosthenes the Athenian orator said, "*we have courtesans (prostitutes) for pleasure, concubines to provide for our daily needs, and our spouses to give us legitimate children and to be the faithful guardians of our homes*". (Against Neaera, 122)

2. The Romans weren't any better for women.

a) Marriage was legitimized prostitution & divorcing the wife for various & sundry things was very common.

3. The Jewish culture could be equally demeaning toward women.

a) Jewish women were treated much like slaves & were given no legal position, & divorce was rampant in the Jewish culture as well.

b) A typical morning prayer was, "*Blessed art thou, O Lord our God, who has not made me a...woman.*"

4. God's view on women/marriage was much different than *the world's view*

a) God would say, *husbands think differently, have different attitudes, treat them differently.*

D. Remember once again, the **context** he is expounding from (see 2:12).

II. Slide3 **WORDLESS SERMONS (1-6)** **READ 1-6**

A. 6 Ways to Win your husband:

1. Her Goal. Her Submission. Her Words. Her Pure Conduct. Her External Beauty. Her Forever Beauty. *And then*, Her Example.

III. Slide4a **[1] HER GOAL (1c)** *they may be won*

A. Also remember the context from vs.21. We must **follow** His **example**/pattern of *humble endurance*, so that others will be led to His light.

1. Peter must have been thinking of Jesus' own words in Mark 10:45,
 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to
give His life a ransom for many. (Marriage = serve, give your life)

B. You must always focus on & come back to ... it is for *his soul*.

IV. Slide4b [2] HER SUBMISSION (1a)

A. *Submit/subject* means the same throughout the NT: Jesus to parents (Lk.5:21).
 demons subject to the disciples (Lk.10:17). citizens to government (Rm.13:1).
 universe to Christ (1 Cor.15:27). unseen sp. powers to Jesus (1 Pet.3:22).
 Jesus to the Father (1 Cor.15:28). church members to church leaders (1 Cor.16:15,16).
 Church to Christ (Eph.5:24). servants to masters (1 Pet.2:18). [here] wives to
 husbands (1 Pet.3:1). Christians to God (Heb.12:9).

B. Submitting to an *unbeliever*.

1. **Note:** Peter **doesn't** give her the *right to flee* from her husband, **but** the
higher calling to *fight for his soul*.

2. Peter says, like Paul did, *a woman who has a husband who does not
 believe, if he is willing to live with her, let her not divorce him.* 1Cor.7:13

3. Our being *recused from sin* & having a *new holy way of life*, **should not**
 cause a *holier-then-thou* disrespectful attitude.

a) Submitting to an unbeliever is **difficult**, **but** it is a vital part of *leading them to*
Jesus Christ.

4. **Wives** should you submit in everything to the point of *compromising* your
 relationship w/God? **NO!** But you must **look for every opportunity** to
 humbly serve in the power of Gods Spirit.

C. **Submission** is *voluntarily cooperating w/someone*.

1. 1st out of *love & respect* for God **then** out of *love & respect* for that person.

D. Did you know the bible **never** tells wives to *obey* their husbands?

1. The nature of a wife's submission is **different** from the submission of *children or slaves*. The wife has a **different relationship** to her husband than children to parents or slaves to masters.
2. The motivation for *voluntary submission* is that it's a *proper Christian attitude*.²

V. Slide4c [3] HER WORDS (1b)

- A. Wives should depend upon their **lives** more than their **lips** in witnessing to unsaved husbands.
 1. **W/o a word** - w/o spiritual lecturing/nagging. (hopefully you can talk about spiritual things if he's open ... *but if not* ... it's not a lost cause)
- B. (2) **So how do you bring religion into a pagan home? Action!**
- C. **Ladies** (& **men** in this similar situation) **Pray for 2 things**: **Grace** for you to live rightly, & For **God** to work in your spouses heart.

VI. Slide4d [4] HER PURE CONDUCT (1d,2)

- A. **Pure** - free from moral defilement.
 1. This is another reminder that this submission must never go so far as to include demands to do something that is *morally wrong*.
- B. **Ruth Graham** said it was a great day in her life when she realized it was **not** her job to *change* her husband. She said, "*It was my job to love Billy and God's job to change him.*"

VII. Slide4e [5] HER EXTERNAL BEAUTY (3)

- A. **Adornment/outward** - Christianity came into a world of *luxury & decadence* combined.

² Shepherd's Notes: 1,2 Peter, Jude; pg.24

B. Now, many churches have taken this verse & built their case for ***no jewelry or no hair styles*** ... **but** there's one problem ... *there was no adjective modifying clothing in the original (i.e. not *fine clothing*)*

1. **Meaning if you prohibit *jewelry & hair styles*, you must prohibit them *wearing any clothes* at all.**

C. Christian women can be *attractive* without being *worldly*.

1. Peter said Christian wives should not think of outer attire as *the source of genuine beauty*. In other words, be cautious of *artificial glamour*.

2. Dress nice & be attractive ... **but** if this is all you have ... *that's a problem!*

a) If you're w/o character Prov.11:22 says, **As a ring of gold in a swine's snout, So is a lovely woman who lacks discretion.**

b) Our world bombards you ladies with *looking better*, rather than living better.

VIII.Slide4f [6] **HER FOREVER BEAUTY (4)** *The hidden person of the heart*

A. (3,4) **Inner beauty** is far more important than **outer beauty**.

B. Christian wives w/unsaved husbands should seek to win them to the Lord w/**true spiritual beauty** & **not** w/*artificial glamor* or *nagging*.

C. **Girls**, *However you catch em is what you'll need to keep em.*

1. *Catch him with your body/hair/clothes, Or, Heart?*

D. **Not** to be understood as an *absolute prohibition* of the things mentioned, **but** the need of **relative proportion** between the *outward appearance* & the *inward life*.

E. **Gentle & quiet spirit** - only used 3 other times in the NT...& 2 pertain to Christ.

1. Defined as, **one who isn't insistent on his own rights, is not pushy, not selfishly assertive, not demanding his own way.**

2. Here's what matters...**God finds it very precious!**

3. **Purity of life & a submissive spirit** have always been a godly woman's lasting source of beauty & attractiveness.

a) People are like stained glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out. **But** in the darkness, beauty is seen *only if there is a light within*.

F. Slide5a HER EXAMPLE (5,6)

G. It must have truly been difficult being married to *Abraham*. Like when he told Sarah, *I had this vision, let's move to a strange land*. Or the times when he said, *hey pretend you're my sister* (twice). The time they were shopping for property & he said, *let's not take the best land, let's give that to our troubled nephew, Lot*. Oh and my favorite, *Honey I'm going to go sacrifice our son, see you in a few days*. He at times appeared *unpredictable, devious, foolish, rash, & even irresponsible*.

H. Here God sets forth this *super-cultural*^(above) & *trans-cultural*^(across) example in Sarah

1. Sarah really? - She's the one who said to her husband, *Hey why not commit adultery with my maid, then we can have kids*.

a) If you're new to Scripture, *that wasn't a good idea!* They're still fighting in the middle East of over that one. [Ishmael/Issac]

2. Why look to Sarah? *why not Ruth?* She was the mother of the nation of Israel

3. Maybe very strategic why God choose her. Maybe not because she's **perfect**, **but** because she's **imperfect**.

a) Ladies, you're not going to be a perfect wife. Sarah wasn't.

b) You're not always going to always give good counsel. Sarah didn't.

c) Sometimes you're going to follow your husband when you shouldn't, because he's **not** following God. Like Sarah did.

d) Sometimes you're not going to follow your husband when you should. Like Sarah did.

e) She was a godly women, **but** *an imperfect women*.

4. Slide5b If you look at **segments** of her life, you'll see a woman that made *some tragic mistakes*. If you look at the **totality** of her life you will see **a godly women**. Ladies, can you do the same for yourself?

I. Keywords: submission, subject, wives, unbelieving husband, love & respect, pure conduct, external beauty, inner beauty, gentle & quiet spirit, example.