

Warning: Some who seek marriage counsel/information do so with a Jonah heart = *"Judgment needs to happen over THERE."*

For those not Married: Love, self-sacrifice, submission, and honor are not exclusive to marriage they are to be attributes of all believers – this message is for you too!

Context for The Kingdom Governed Home:

- 5:1 The *"therefore"* alerts us to the fact that Paul builds on truth from chapters 1-4: "
- Christians, have been chosen, predestined, and adopted *"THEREFORE, be imitators of God AS beloved children."*
- The word *"AS"* = *just-like, as if, or according to*. *"AS"* is a conjunction connecting the directive = love/submit, to the source = the LORD
- Ch. 1-4 of Ephesians inform chapter 5, showing *practically* how we live in our marriage *"AS IF CHRIST is KING."*

Defining Submission:

- SUBMISSION to CHRIST requires SUBMISSION to others.
- Jesus lived a life of Submission! John 5:30; 14:31; Heb 10:5-9
- The tone of Submission captured; *"Spirit, hymns, singing, melody, thanksgiving."*
- Everyone who is in Christ submits just as Christ did = *in his name!*

God simplifies his counsel on marriage to TWO foundational words (Gen 2; Eph 5, Col 3, 1 Pet 3). These are given to Husbands and Wives by which marriage MUST be ordered. = LOVE & SUBMISSION (+Joyful & Honoring).

The Kingdom Minded Wife:

- Submission = *"to come up under, to obey."*
- SUBMISSION to be truly submissive must also be *Joyful and honoring*.
- Joyful and honoring submission is exemplified and modeled by JESUS, *AND* the Husband (1 Cor 11:3)

Eph 5:22 *"Wives submit → to your own husbands → as to the LORD.*

1. *"Wives Submit..."* Christ submits to God → the husband submits to Christ → the wife submits to her husband.
 - The wife has the glorious privilege of revealing/exemplifying how the church is to submit to Christ (v. 24, 32) to her children and the world.
 - In the Kingdom of Christ, submission is always POSITIVE. Submission is commonplace in God's economy.
 - Submission is the freedom to live and act within a designated jurisdiction under divinely appointed authority.¹
2. *"Wives submit... to your own husbands."*
 - Col 3:18 and 1 Pet 3 emphasize the exclusivity of a wife's submission; it is to be *"to your own husbands"*
 - FREEDOM: You only submit to one spiritual leader; and your husband bears all the weight for final decisions
 - BOUNDARY: because your husband is YOUR husband and there is no comparing
3. *"Wives submit to your own husbands, as to the LORD"*
 - Submission is to be complete and in attitude and the action.
 - Submission is a test of a wife's love for God as well as a test of love for her husband.
 - submission is an act of love, trust, and obedience to Christ.
 - The kingdom minded wife will have an increasing desire to *"do her husband good and not harm."* (Pr 31:11)
 - The Church is to Christ as the Wife is to her husband.

¹ Wayne Mack, Strengthening your Marriage p. 19