



Submission

- Better understanding of submission
- Focus on following and respect





Submission

- “I am a submissive person”???



Submission

- Submission NOT negative in Bible
- 1. FULL equality in Trinity, Jesus subordinate to Father
 - “...Head of Christ is God.” (1 Cor.11:3)
 - “He humbled Himself by becoming obedient...”(Phil.2:8)

Submission

2. Woman as *Helper* - positive

“...but for Adam no suitable *helper* was found. So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep...the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man and he brought her to the man.

(Gen.2:20b-22)

Submission

- 2. Woman as *Helper* - positive
- “Ezer”-word attributed to God
- To bring something the other needs-
NOT an assistant
- From a position of strength
- Why woman and not the man?



Submission

- 3. God's economy we "find our life" as we serve and prop other people up
- Phil.2:9-11
- Mark 10:42-45
- Not madness because we have the resources



Submission

- 4. God stands behind delegated authority-
without it chaos reigns
- Government Rom.13:1/1 Pet.2:13,14
- Work 1 Pet.2:18
- Church Heb.13:17
- Home Eph.5



Submission

- Jesus' role was to submit to Father
- To “help” is to bring what's needed
- It's a gift to defer to others
- God stands behind human authority



Submission

- Role for men: To be the head or to lead
- Big news for men HOW to lead
- “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her” (25)
- ***RADICAL STUFF***



Submission

- Role for women: Submit and Respect
- NOT:
- Spiritualized way to manipulate
- Becoming a doormat
- The absence of speaking a word of correction
- Pretending to be someone you are not



Submission

“One writer says that submissiveness is a matter not of mere outward form but inner attitude. A wife can be a person of strong opinions and still be submissive to her husband’s authority if deep down she respects him and is quite prepared and content for him to make and carry out the final decision. On the other hand, a wife who scarcely opens her mouth with an idea of her own and never questions her husband’s decisions may, underneath it all, nurse a deep, sullen rebellion.”
(Dillow, Creative Counterpart, 1977,p.127.)

Submission

- Submission: What it is
- “Yield one’s own rights in order to meet another’s legitimate needs” – (Groom, Married Without Masks)
- “An inclination to **follow** a husband’s leading where it doesn’t lead to sin” – (Crabb, Marriage Builder)

Submission

- Why is it SO hard to follow and let them lead?
- We want to control
- Part of the consequence of the fall-Gen3:16
- “I must try to control everything around me in order to feel safe in an unsafe world.”
- 1 Peter 3:6b...if you do not give way to fear
- It comes down to an issue of trusting God

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Submission

“A husband needs his wife to be willing to place herself under his leadership in the family, gladly and without a critical spirit. She must be strong, but she must also bring her strength into place under his headship and initiation.

Submission

She must respond to his strength, not just lean on her own. A man needs his wife to risk trusting his adequacy to lead and provide for the family in the same way the Church trusts Christ to serve as her head and guide.” (Groom, Married Without Masks, P.92.)

Submission

- Why is it SO hard to follow and let them lead?
- We may have to wait
- We hate to wait so we...
- Nag - verbal (or otherwise) pushing
- Write them off
- Not the only option - Cultivate a mind set of **HELPING** them

Submission

- Why is it SO hard to follow and let them lead?
- We may pay a price if we let them lead
- Jane Hill (*Focus on Family Newsletter*, Feb. 1995)
- God teaches great lessons through failure
- Can we trust Him?



Submission

- Why is it SO hard to follow and let them lead?
- We may have established bad patterns

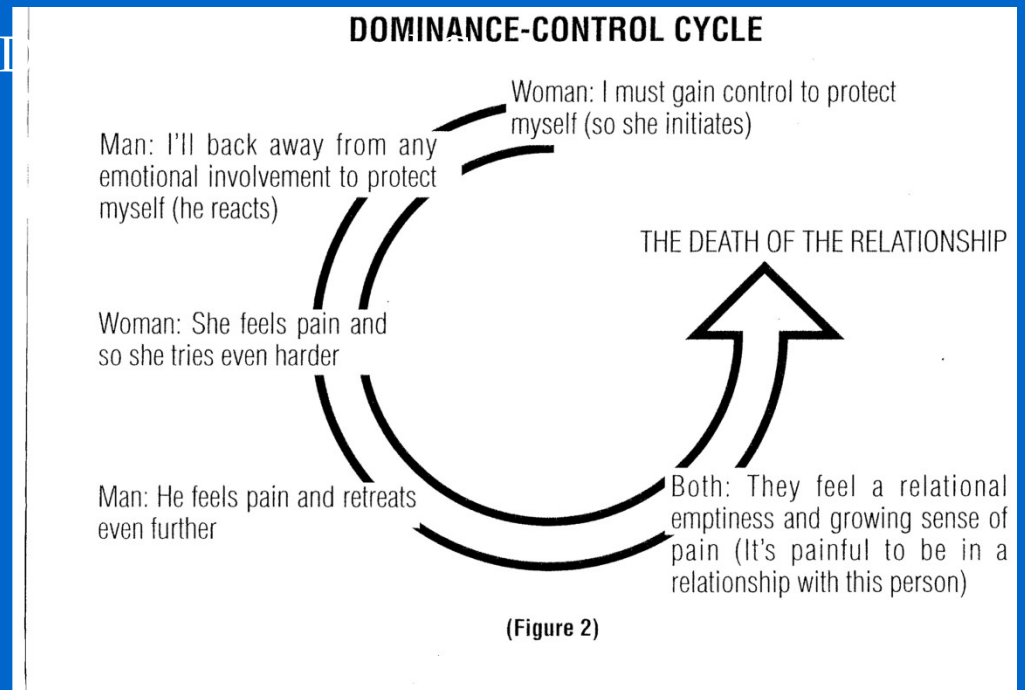


Submission

“If I were to reduce all of this to a simple principle, it would be: *Where wives seek to lead, husbands leave.* Husbands will abdicate their God-given responsibility. Most won’t fight their wives for leadership; they’ll just turn it over and walk away. Everything in the culture encourages them to do that. Everything in their sinful nature encourages them to do that. If their own wives start fighting them for control, then they’ll quickly abdicate.” (Lewis and Hendricks, Rocking the Roles, 1991, p.138-9.)

Submission

- Why is it SO hard to follow and let them lead?
 - We may have established bad patterns
 - We can go our way - outcome?
 - Further alienation-I



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Submission

I've known a number of women who were natural leader-types and who ended up running their families. I have never seen one who really like what she got. I believe if any man doesn't feel his wife's support in bearing overall responsibility for the family, *it destroys his sense of manhood*. He will feel humiliated, whether he expresses it or not. He will never be happy, and his wife will never be happy. (Lewis & Hendricks, Rocking the Roles, 1991, p.235)

Submission

- *Objections*
- He is going the wrong way!
- Win him by your behavior, not alternatives
- “Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over ***without words*** by the behavior of their wives, when they ***see*** the purity and reverence of your lives. (1 Peter 3:1,2)



Submission

- Do we ALWAYS submit?
- **Never** when we are being asked to disobey a higher authority-God.
- Do we submit to a man who is abusing his authority?
- If someone is sinning against God the best way we can serve them is to oppose them
- When we cannot submit, we do it with reverence and love



Submission

“This is not to say a woman must approve of everything a man does...The key is how a wife communicates her disapproval. When a man feels accepted, trusted, and appreciated, he’s more apt to listen to loving correction. Most wives don’t understand their husband’s fear of failure, and thus unknowingly their genuine attempts to help their husbands serve only to damage and further undermine the marriage.”

(Malphurs, Biblical Manhood and Womanhood. P.139)



Respect

- “However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must *respect* her husband.” (Eph.5:33)
- Our cynical culture has lost the concept of respect.
- Who do you respect? What is your attitude toward them?
- To fear, esteem, honor-to value highly





Respect

- How important is respect?
- In a survey, hands down, men prefer “alone and unloved” to “inadequate and disrespected” (Feldhahn, For Women Only p.23)



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Respect

- Disrespect...
- Being critical
- Communicating contempt-tone of voice?

Respect

- Disrespect....
- Communicating the need to change
- “If his marriage is typical, after the first year, he will know his wife loves him but will feel she neither likes him nor admires him for who he is as a human being. If the pattern is like most, she will spend her energy seeking to help change him by her loving criticism and complaints, which eventually feel like contempt to him.” (Eggerich, Love and Respect, p.49)
- Importance of success and fear of failure (Crabbe, Men and Women p.206-7)

Respect

- “When a woman seeks to change a man, she’s questioning his very competence. When this happens repeatedly, he is convinced she views him as a failure.”
(Malphurs, Biblical Manhood...p.125-6)
- Can’t over emphasis the importance of success and fear of failure

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Respect

- Disrespect....
- Asking too many questions
- Offering unsolicited advice
- Correcting in public
- Being negative



Respect

- It is...
- Discerning and focusing on the positives
- Wife is a mirror...



Respect

“A man has two significant mirrors in his life: one is his work, the other is his wife...Of the two, you as a woman are the more important over a life time in helping your man feel good about himself. Why? Because there are times when his work is just work. And there will be a time when he has no work. But he’ll want you to be there, energizing and stabilizing his life.

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Respect

You are his most valuable mirror!...Every husband yearns for the respect of his wife. He desperately wants to know you think he is important, that he has value and that his life on this planet is worth something.” (Lewis & Hendricks, Rockin the Rolls, p.120.)

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Respect

- It is...
- Telling him you respect him/you're proud of him
- Respecting his judgment
- Respecting his abilities
- Praising in private and public
- Asking for his input



Respect

- It is...
- Being truly interested in his world - job ministry, hobbies





Respect

- It is...
- Listening to and affirming his dreams
- “A plan in the heart of a man is like deep water, but a man of understanding draws it out.” (Prov.20:5)



Respect

“A wise woman, on the other hand, is patient with her husband during dream sessions. She understands that after three or four weeks of getting pushed around at his job, it’s only natural for him to start dreaming about becoming a professional mountain climber or joining a circus or some other crazy scheme. She also realizes that dreaming is his way of evaluating. Often he is really asking: Is what I am doing *valuable*? Am I any good? Does my life count for anything? Is there anything else I could do? What do you think of me?” (Lewis & Hendricks, Rockin the Roles p.127)

Homework Week 2

- Memorize Phil.2:3-4 (-8)* Mark 10:42-45
- Choose a Psalm that speaks of God's provision and protection-ps.139, 103
- Re-write it in your own words
- Journal how you have seen God protect and provide for you in the past and in the present.

Homework Week 2

- Pray about one area where you can step back and give your husband room to lead.
- Pray that God would give you greater awareness of his need for success and where you may be communicating failure.
- Affirm his initiation/ tell him you respect him/communicate confidence in him.
- NO unsolicited advice.

Homework Week 2

- Resources
- Dennis McCallum “1 Peter 3 ‘Patriarchy or Serving Love’” (study center)
- Tim and Kathy Keller “Cultivating a Healthy Marriage” (Redeemer website)
- Audio recording-*Understanding Your Man* by Andy Stanley t05766a, t05766b (study center)
- Eggerichs, *Love and Respect*
- Feldhahn, *For Women Only*