

We Are God's Family
Subjecting Ourselves to Others
Ephesians 5:21-33

LAST WEEK: The Spirit Filled Life

- Being wise about management of our future (5:15-17)
- Being filled with the Spirit (5:18)
 - *speaking to one another in joyful and encouraging ways (5:19)*
 - *giving thanks to God, the Father (5:20)*
 - *“being subject to one another in the fear of Christ” (5:21)*

TODAY: “Subjection” is a Spirit-filled Choice

*“Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.” **Matthew 16:24***

*“And sitting down, He called the twelve and said to them, “If anyone wants to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all.” **Mark 9:25***

“Subjection” Will Define Our Relationships (Eph. 5:21f)

- 1. “Subjection” is a choice to place ourselves under others as a display of respect for them and trust in Christ. (5:21)**

“Be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.” (Eph. 5:20)

*“you know about the household of Stephanus...they devoted themselves to ministry for the saints. I urge you also to submit to people like this, and to everyone who cooperates in the work and labors hard.” **I Corinthians 16:15-16***

*“If your brother sins, go and reprove him in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother? But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you....” **Matthew 18:15-17** “Lord, how often should my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.” **Matthew 18:21-22***

- 2. Wives, be subject to your own husbands. (5:22-24)**

“Choosing to trust the calling of God in a man's life to protect, provide, nurture and lead, knowing that your trust and respect is what He needs most to grow as a man.”

- *God's call in the life of a man was given before woman was created. **Genesis 2:15-17***
- *The greatest need in a man's life is to have someone who truly believes in him and trusts Him to lead.*

Love and Respect by Dr. Emerson Eggerichs

The Love She Most Desires / The Respect He Desperately Needs

- 3. Husbands, love your wives as Christ loved the church. (5:25-32)**

“Choosing to love your wife as God's precious possession entrusted to your care so that she will feel loved, safe and secure.”

“Choosing to love is an Act of Subjection”

Principles Defining Our Subjection to Others

- **Subjection is a commitment to deny self in order to respect and serve another person in the interest of promoting their growth as a child of God. (Mark 10:45)**
- **In the church, subjection could involve receiving words of encouragement and rebuke or offering of encouragement and grace.**
- **In marriage, subjection is offering what we know our spouse needs most to grow as a child of God.**

Subjection is denying self for the sake of others!