

Ephesians 5:22-24

Wife's Responsibility in Marriage

Points to Consider

1. Submission is a command
2. Submission is based on authority
3. Submission is extensive

Submission is a command

Eph 5:22 *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.*

Wives are commanded to _____ to their _____.
To submit is to place yourself under the _____ of another.

Rom 13:1-3 *Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. NKJV*

Every Christian is _____ to the governing authorities.
Why? Everyone is to be subject to governing authorities because they get their authority from _____.
Those who resist this authority will bring _____ on themselves.

1 Peter 2:13-17 - It is the will of God that we submit ourselves to _____ levels of government.

1 Peter 2:18-19 *Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh. NKJV*

Servants are to submit to their _____ masters.

Heb 13:17 *Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you. NKJV*

Saints in a local church must be submissive to the _____ of that church.

1 Peter 3:1-6

A submissive wife is a good example to her unbelieving husband.

A submissive wife is _____.

A submissive wife has a _____ and _____ spirit.

A submissive wife _____ her husband.

A submissive wife _____ her husband.

Doing this is a sign of _____ God.

Titus 2:1-5 - Older women are to admonish young women to _____ their husbands and to obey their husbands.

Women are also to be _____.

Women are to be _____.

Example – Proverbs 31:10-31

The picture of the virtuous wife is one who _____ for her husband and children.
The virtuous woman also does things to make money, so she can help the _____.

Practical Application: All married women need to be managers at home. That is a responsibility that cannot be neglected. If you are blessed to devote all of your time to the home, then work hard to make sure the house is managed well. Treat it as your fulltime job. If this is a struggle for you, seek out an older lady to advise you. Husbands and wives need to sit down and come up with a plan to divide up the household chores based on time and talents. We need to consider what our wives are doing other than managing the home and take that into consideration. If she is working fulltime, then the work at home is going to have to be divided more evenly. If she is homeschooling, then that is going to have to be considered too. Also, are your children helping around the house?

Also, ask yourself these questions:

1. Am I _____?
2. Do I have a _____ and _____ spirit?
3. Do I obey my husband?
4. Do I respect my husband?
5. Do I fulfill my role as a homemaker?

Submission is based on authority

Ephesians 5:23 *For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.*

The husband is the _____ of the wife as Christ is the head of the church.

1 Cor 11:2-12 The head of man is Christ. The head of Christ is God.

The head of woman is _____.

Man was not created for the woman, but woman _____ created for the man.

However, it is important to remember that we are _____ on one another! _____
dependence is key to a successful marriage.

Gen 2:18-23; 1 Sam 7:9-12

Samuel named the stone he set up "Ebenezer" which means "stone of _____".

God created woman to _____ man.

1 Tim 2:8-15

Paul gives two reasons why a woman is not to teach or have authority over a man:

1. Adam was created _____.
2. Adam was not deceived, but the woman was _____ and sinned.

Women should not only adorn themselves in modest apparel, but must also have a submissive _____. (An attitude of submissiveness or a submissive disposition)

1 Cor 14:34-38 *Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak; but they are to be submissive, as the law also says. 35 And if they want to learn something, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is shameful for women to speak in church. 36 Or did the word of God come originally from you? Or was it you only that it reached? 37 If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord. 38 But if anyone is ignorant, let him be ignorant.*
NKJV

Paul gives two reasons in this text why a woman is not permitted to speak in church, but be submissive:

1. The _____ also says.
2. They are _____ of the _____ (37).

The law?

Gen 3:16 *To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire shall be for your husband, And he shall rule over you."* NKJV

A wife being submissive to her husband predates the Law of Moses. It goes all the way to _____ and the first sin.

However, the authority of a husband over his wife is _____ seen in the Law of Moses. (Remember Ruth)

We've learned that submission is based on God placing men in a position of authority over women. It is based on the facts that man was created first, woman was created to help man, and that woman was deceived and fell into transgression. It is not because man is more valuable to God than woman. It is not because man is more intelligent than woman. It is not because man is wiser than woman. It is not because woman is inferior to man.

Practical Application: Women, are you willfully under the authority of your husband? Do you recognize that this is God's plan? Are you a light in this area or are you walking in darkness? The world needs examples of how godly woman dress and live under the authority of their husbands. Are you that example? Older women, are you teaching these?

Submission is Extensive

Eph 5:24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. NKJV

Wives are to be subject to their husbands as they are to _____.
Wives are to be subject to their husbands in _____.

Eph 5:33 *Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.* NKJV

A wife is to _____ her husband. This may be difficult if the husband is not worthy of respect. However, it is no different than the responsibility we all have to honor unworthy kings.

1 Peter 2:18-19 *Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh.* NKJV

Submission is based on God's command not on the worthiness of the one we are submitting to.

1 Peter 5:5 *For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, 6 as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror.*

Sarah's submission was so extreme that she _____ Abraham and demonstrated her _____ for him by calling him lord.

Challenges

1. Men who are unworthy of respect. Men who “lord” the authority God has given them over their wives.
2. Men who are unwilling to take the leadership role in the families.
3. Society’s expectations.
4. Personalities. Some personalities and/or combinations of personalities make it difficult for women to submit to their husbands.

