

1 Peter 3 – Submission and Understanding

Points to consider

1. Wives must submit to their husbands
2. Husbands must honor their wives

Wives must submit to their husbands

1 Peter 3:1- Throughout the letter Peter has emphasized the importance of choosing the _____ over the temporary.

Contrast between the eternal and the temporary

Eternal (Incorruptible)

- Our _____
- Genuine faith
- The _____ of Jesus
- God's _____
- God's kingdom rule
- God as master
- _____ adornment

Temporary (Corruptible)

- An earthly inheritance
- _____ that test our faith
- Silver and gold
- Flowers
- The rule of _____
- Earthly masters or _____
- Physical adornment

Adornment of Women

Eternal

- _____ to your husband
- Chaste behavior
- Godly _____
- Gentle and _____ spirit
- _____ God
- Obeying your husband
- _____ communication with your husband

Temporary

- Your hair style
- Your jewelry selection
- Your wardrobe

Gen 18:6,12 6 So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quickly, make ready three measures of fine meal; knead it and make cakes." ... 12 Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, "After I have grown old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?"

I believe this is the _____ time the Bible mentions that Sarah "called" Abraham lord. However, there are several times where the Bible records that Sarah was _____ to Abraham.

Gen 21:9-13 *And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, scoffing. 10 Therefore she said to Abraham, "Cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, namely with Isaac." 11 And the matter was very displeasing in Abraham's sight because of his son. 12 But God said to Abraham, "Do not let it be displeasing in your sight because of the lad or because of your bondwoman. Whatever Sarah has said to you, listen to her voice; for in Isaac your seed shall be called. 13 Yet I will also make a nation of the son of the bondwoman, because he is your seed."* NKJV

1 Sam 1:21-23 *Now the man Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice and his vow. 22 But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, "Not until the child is weaned; then I will take him, that he may appear before the Lord and remain there forever." 23 So Elkanah her husband said to her, "Do what seems best to you; wait until you have weaned him. Only let the Lord establish His word." Then the woman stayed and nursed her son until she had weaned him.* NKJV

The women of old teach us that it's natural and normal for a woman to express her opinion and make decisions that her husband should appreciate and _____.

Practical Application: There are a few questions that you could ask your husband and close friends that will help you see if there are improvements you need to make in this area. **1** Ask your husband if you talk to him in a respectful manner. This includes not only the words you say, but the tone you take. **2.** Ask your husband if people are afraid of or intimidated by you. Do people avoid dealing with you because they have no idea what to expect? **3.** Would you describe me as a woman with a gentle and quiet spirit?

Husbands must honor their wives

1 Peter 3:7 - A husband should _____ that his wife is the _____ vessel and, as a result, give her _____.

In what way(s) are women weaker than men?

1. Are women intellectually weaker than men?
2. Are women morally or spiritually weaker than men?
3. Are women emotionally weaker than men?
4. Are women positionally weaker than men?

1 Peter 2:13-15; 1 Peter 2:18-19

In the previous two examples Peter uses, there is no doubt that one is _____ weaker than the other.

1 Cor 11:3-10 *But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God. ... 8 For man is not from woman, but woman from man. 9 Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man.* NKJV

1 Tim 2:11-15 *Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. 12 And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.* NKJV

The New Testament clearly teaches that men and women have _____ roles in the family and the church.

Mark 10:42-45 *But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. 43 Yet it shall not*

be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. 44 And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. 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." NKJV

1 Peter 5:3-4 *...nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; NKJV*

The New Testament also clearly teaches that those with authority are not to abuse those under their authority but rather they should _____ them.

It's plausible that Peter is telling husbands to honor their wives who are in a weaker role in the relationship.

5. Are women physically weaker than men?

The answer to this is a _____ yes! Generally speaking, men are stronger than women.

Num 1:20 *Now the children of Reuben, Israel's oldest son, their genealogies by their families, by their fathers' house, according to the number of names, every male individually, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war: NKJV*

Men went to war because men are _____ and more physically aggressive than women. This makes sense in the context. Governments exercise their physical dominance by putting to death the wicked. Masters could use their physical dominance by beating their slaves.

Honor 1. a valuing by which the price is fixed; hence, the price" itself. 2. honor which belongs or is shown to one: the honor of one who outranks others, pre-eminence. (from Thayer's Greek Lexicon, PC Study Bible formatted Electronic Database. Copyright © 2006 by Biblesoft, Inc. All rights reserved.)

Rom 12:10 *Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another. NKJV*

Eph 5:21 *submitting to one another in the fear of God. NKJV*

Phil 2:3-4 *Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. 4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. NKJV*

The Bible repeatedly teaches us to honor fellow Christians by treating them _____ than we treat ourselves.

John 13:13-14 *You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. NKJV*

Jesus _____ this concept perfectly when He washed the disciple's feet.

Practical Application: This relationship only works as God desires if both parties are fulfilling their roles. Ask your wife what you can do to show her honor. Ask what things you are doing well. Ask her what things you could do better.