

things I would like for us to see about submission.
God's stool for your happiness. 3. Submission is

1. It is a command of God. 2. It is not slavery.

Folks, no organization can function properly if it is not based on the home. One of the great hindrances to a happy home is that a woman does not have to subject herself to her husband. Education seems to give women the idea that subjecting themselves to their husbands is out of the 19th century. But when subjection goes out of the home, so does happiness. Today we have more frustrated women, men, and children than ever before. With the degradation of the father's image and the rising dominance of the mother's role, we have witnessed an increase in juvenile delinquency, rebellion, homosexuality, and divorce. God intended man to be the head of his home. If he is not, he will not have a sense of responsibility but will subconsciously feel he is being carried to a second mother. This is a good reason why 40 percent of all fathers in the United States have not seen their children in the last year. The men have certainly failed to take their responsibility. See our website at www.fortheloveofthefamily.com, "Where Are the Fathers?"

His children will soon detect who is boss, and as a result, respect for their father that is necessary for the adjustment to life. Usually, a wife-dominated home is a quarrelsome home until the husband and finally "gives up". He then crawls into a shell of an introverted person whose wife just to keep the peace. The sad thing is, a wife will eventually grow to despise the husband she dominates.

1. Submission is a Command of God. The Christian woman must be in subjection to her husband. I want to take the time here to help you with understanding. In Ephesians 5 we are talking about **two Spirit-controlled people**. The problem with most Christian homes today is that problem. **A lack of submission to the Holy Spirit**. Men, if we want our wives to understand the importance of submission we have to understand we as men must be filled (the word means controlled) by the Holy Spirit. When the man is not controlled by the Holy Spirit it is a pretty good chance that the wife will not be either. The marriage is then in trouble. Much of what goes on today, trying to apply Ephesians chapter 5 to a sad affair. Two non-Spirit-controlled people of all the sins of Galatians 5:19-21, which is a disaster. Submission to the Holy Spirit is commanded by God and is a prerequisite for a happy home, Ephesians 5:18-21. **Submitting** yourselves one to another in the fear of God". Pray for that you must be filled with the Spirit, Ephesians 5:18.

Let's stake it a step further. Most Christians do not take their fellowship with God seriously enough. Failure to submit yourself to the Holy Spirit will result in you being out of fellowship with God and seeking to make life work your own way. You will be like the children of Israel who were out in the wilderness for 40 years seeking to go their own way in disobedience. You will live an unhappy life with many problems and your children will follow.

A good marriage is something that is worked at, it just doesn't happen. Men and ladies submission does not mean you do not ever discuss problems or ideas. It takes two people controlled by the Holy Spirit. Ladies, as two Spirit controlled people, if your husband and you have talked about an area and pray about it and still disagree, God holds him responsible for the decision that has been made and you need to understand submission in the matter. Let's make sure though we are not talking about something that God's word has clear direction about. In this day and age we lack maturity so people selfishly want their own way. The question comes what if my husband is not a Christian or is not living where he should be? First of all, ladies you need to realize that. If so, you need to make sure your relationship with God is correct and you are in submission and fellowship with the Lord.

1 Peter 3:1-4, tell ladies that they need to show forth Christ to their husband. Are you showing forth Christ to your husband? The majority of cases the lady with the unsaved or disobedient husband is not showing forth Christ. You will never win him by nagging him to death. You will never win him by having a compromised non-Spirit controlled life. Ladies, what about the meek and quiet spirit of 1 Peter 3:4, "But let it be the hidden even the ornament of a meek and quiet man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price". First of all ladies, live for God and be what He wants you to be. That does not mean there will not be difficulties. Ladies, in this situation, always make sure you are obedient to God. Walk with Him and serve Him. James 4:7,8,10, **"(Submit) yourself therefore to God.** Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye double minded. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up".

Men are you the leader God wants you to be? Do you love your wife? Ladies are you showing the proper things to Him? Are you the kind of woman a man could love? The key to a spiritual walk with God is submission to the Holy Spirit and obedience to Him. Then we can also submit ourselves on to another.

Terry L. Coomer is the Pastor of Elwood Bible Baptist Church, and the Director of For the Love of the Family Ministries. He has also served as the Publisher of the nation's fastest growing daily newspaper. Pastor Coomer holds Family Conferences in the local church. To have a meeting at your church or other need she may be contacted at (765) 552-1973, tcoomer@juno.com, www.fortheloveofthefamily.com