

Definition of SUBMISSION: Having the courage to voluntarily give up my rights to meet another person's needs.

I. Submission DEMONSTRATED

1 Peter 2:21 (NASB) "For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps."

Philippians 2:5-7 (NASB) "Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men."

Philippians 2:8 (NASB) "Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross."

Philippians 2:9-11 (NASB) "For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

II. Submission DEMANDED

1 Peter 3:1 (NASB) "In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives"

Ephesians 5:21 (NKJV) "Submitting to one another in the fear of God."

Ephesians 5:19-20 (NKJV) "Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." Giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Ephesians 5:21 (NKJV) "Submitting to one another in the fear of God."

III. Submission BLUEPRINT

First, it begins with an attitude of entrusting oneself to God.

1 Peter 2:21-25 (HCSB) "For you were called to this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in His steps. He did not commit sin, and no deceit was found in His mouth; when reviled, He did not revile in return; when suffering, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to the One who judges justly. He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by His wounding you have been healed. For you were like sheep going astray, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian Or overseer of your souls."

Second, submission requires respectful behavior.

1 Peter 3:1-2 (NASB) "In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives as they observe your chaste and respectful [Lit with respect] behavior."

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

Third, submission involves the development of a godly character.

1 Peter 3:3-5 (NASB) "Your adornment must not be merely external—braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses; but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God. For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their own husbands."

Christian Submission

2 Corinthians 3:18 "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."

Fourth, submission includes doing what is right.

1 Peter 3:6 (NASB) "just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, and you have become her children if you do what is right without being frightened by any fear.

IV. Submission **APPLIED**

1. **UNDERSTANDING**: Consider other's needs.

1 Peter 3:7 (NKJV) "In the same way, you husbands should live with your wives in an understanding way..."

Philippians 4:5 (Phillips) "Let everyone see that you are unselfishness and considerate in all that you do."

2. **HONORING**: Respecting other people's value.

1 Peter 3:7 (NLT) "In the same way, you husbands must give honor to your wives. Treat her with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your equal partner in God's gift of new life."

Philippians 2:3 (Phillips) "When you do these things don't let selfishness or pride be your guide. Instead be humble and give more honor to others than you give to yourself."

3. **SACRIFICE**: The willingness to act for the benefit of another.

1 John 3:18 (NLT) "Let us stop just saying we love people; let us really love them, and show it by our actions."

Ephesians 5:25 (NKJV) "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her."

1 Corinthians 13:5 "Love does not demand its own way."

Application:

Do you spend time understanding the people in your life?

Do you know what their needs are and how you are uniquely equipped to meet those needs?

What value do you place on the people God has placed in your life?

How do you demonstrate other peoples worth?

What do you do to raise other peoples value in your eyes and in the eyes of others?

Are you living for yourself or are you living for others.

Do you love in word only or in deed as well?

What has God revealed to you through this study?

What adjustments do you need to make in your life to accommodate what God has shown you?

What will you do this week to practice submission?

Memory Verse: **1 John 3:18 (NLT) "Let us stop just saying we love people; let us really love them, and show it by our actions."**