

Sermon Notes



Title: *Authority and Submission in the Home*

Text: I Peter 3:1-7

Theme: The home is the crucible where the dynamics of authority and submission are forged into a living and breathing reality in the lives of God's people. The wife and husband are the two critical players in this drama. Christians must model honor and respect toward each other in their respective roles as husband and wife.

I. The _____ Behavior of a Wife to Her Husband Is _____ (1-6)

A. The _____ of this submission is to _____ her husband for Christ (1)

B. The _____ of honorable submission is the wife's _____ (1c-4)

C. _____ of godly women in the past are for Christian wives to _____ (5-6)

II. A Husband's Honorable _____ Toward His Wife is to _____ Her (7)

III. Applications

A. A wife who lives the Gospel _____ in front of her unbelieving husband becomes far more _____ and effective than a wife who constantly tries to _____ him.

B. The _____ to the faith of the Christian by the unbelieving spouse are _____ and _____.

C. There is great _____ that the Gospel will _____ a husband's _____ heart. But there is no _____.

D. A husband cannot expect to be on good _____ terms with _____ if he is not on good _____ terms with his _____.

Next Week Read: I Peter 3:8-12

Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group:

1. To whom are wives to be subject (v. 1a)?
2. What is the situation under which Peter gives this command (v. 1b)?
3. What is the manner by which a Christian wife is to demonstrate her submission and influence her husband (v. 1c)?
4. What does Peter want the disobedient husband to see from the believing wife (v. 2a)?
5. How is the wife's conduct not to be primarily demonstrated (v. 3)?
6. What is the true adornment to which Peter exhorts Christian wives (v. 4a)?
7. How does Peter describe this adornment? What is God's assessment of this kind of dress (v. 4b)?
8. What example does Peter offer of this kind of submissive, respectful behavior (vv. 5-6)?
9. How does Peter say believing husbands are to treat their wives (v. 7a)?
10. How are husbands to do this (v. 7a)?
11. What does Peter mean by a "weaker vessel" (v. 7a)?
12. What is the motivation Peter gives for husbands treating their wives in this manner (v. 7b)?
13. How is Peter's counsel to wives in keeping with the current culture?
14. How was Peter's counsel to wives contrary to the culture of his day?
15. Do you think this text is a difficult text for Christians living in the 21st century? Why or why not?
16. Does submission by definition imply inferiority or lesser status? Explain.
17. Is Peter absolutely forbidding a Christian wife to share the Gospel with her unbelieving husband?
22. What counsel would you offer to a single young man or lady who is interested in finding a mate? What counsel would you offer to a Christian wife whose husband shows no indication of ever being open to the Gospel?
23. What spiritual challenges does a spouse face whose mate is not a follower of Christ?
24. In what ways might a Christian husband exploit his position over his wife that shows he does not honor her?
25. Should a Christian wife who makes more money than her unbelieving husband be willing to leave her job if her husband is transferred to another city for his career even though the job still pays less than hers? What issues attitudes, and behavior might be essential in making this decision manageable?