

REFLECT:
(20 minutes minimum)



10. Why do you think this whole subject of submission is so controversial today, even in the church?

11. **Discuss these statements in light of what Paul says in our text. Are these statements an accurate reflection of biblical teaching? Why or why not?**

- Wives should always be subservient to their husbands.
- Men are innately superior to women.
- Whatever the husband says is the way it's going to be.
- Husbands always make the decisions in the family.
- A wife must be submissive to her husband, even if he's abusing her physically or emotionally.

12. **What should a wife do when her Christian husband does not take spiritual leadership? And what should a wife do whose husband is not a Christian?**

13. How do you feel about Paul's instructions about submission (ladies) and the need to be a spiritual leader in the home (men)? Are you bothered at all by Paul's instructions?



January 3, 2010

Ephesians #14

THE GREAT SUBMISSION

EPHESIANS 5:22-24

OPEN:
(2 minutes)



1. What would you say is the most important ingredient for a successful marriage?

2. What's the strangest/silliest thing you've ever seen or heard of someone doing in the name of "love"?

3. What is the most memorable wedding you have witnessed?



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Read Ephesians 5:21-24 & 1 Peter 3:1-5

4. **Paul's command that wives must submit to their husbands is very countercultural today. What does it mean for a wife to submit to her husband? Is it an "out of date" concept in today's world?**
5. **For what reason(s) does Paul say wives are to submit to their husbands? Is it just based on first century culture, as some would say, or is it based on something else? Explain your answer.**
6. How is the relationship of the church to Christ an example to wives? (v.24)
7. Paul throughout the next few paragraphs uses the phrase, "As is fitting in the Lord" or other similar wording. What does that mean?
8. In the culture of his day, would Paul be considered more of a "male chauvinist" or a "radical feminist"? What about in today's culture?
9. If a modern psychologist wrote a book using the language of this passage, how would the general public react?