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| **JULY 2024** | |
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| **WEEK 1** | **THE CONCEPT OF SUBMISSION 1** |
| scriptures | Col 3:18, Eph 5:24, 33b, 1 Peter 3:1, **7c**, **Phil 2:5-9a** |
| * Submission is a **MUST** for every wife * Even though we are our husband’s **EQUAL** partner in God’s gift of new life –v7c   **Jesus as our case study (Example) Phil 2:5**  Jesus’ coming to earth has modelled submission for us wives – v5   * You must have the same attitude that Christ had * Jesus was God => He is equal with God - v6 (God is not telling us to do something that He has not done) * He did not think of equality with God as something to cling to * He gave us His divine privileges * He took **the humble position** of **a slave** * Was born as a human being * He humbled Himself in obedience to God * God elevated Him * Christian life = living like Christ * If we all live our Christian lives effectively, submission will come easy - Phil 2:5, 1 Peter 3:2   **What does that mean to us?**   * We must have the same attitude that Christ had * Submission is to take **the humble position** of **a slave** * This is the position Sarah took by calling her husband **master** * We are **not slaves**, we only need to learn from them and **assume their position** (learning from the ant doesn’t make you an ant prov 6:6) * We must give up certain privileges the moment we get married   + No taking independent decisions in anything   + No independent womanhood   + Having the final say in decision making   + Leadership in the home setting * We must humble ourselves in obedience to our husbands **in everything** * There is elevation in submission | |
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| **WEEK 2** | **THE CONCEPT OF SUBMISSION 2 (Taking the humble position)** |
| scriptures | Col 3:18, Eph 5:24, 33b, **1 Peter 2:18-23,** 3:1-6, 7c, Phil 2:5-9a |
| Studying **the humble position** of a slave   * They **accept the authority** of their masters (husbands) with all respect * They do what they are told-not only when it’s favourable or reasonable (Jesus agreed to die) * Not only when their masters are kind but also cruel * They do what is right and patiently endure unfair treatment * Christ is their example and thy must follow His steps * He did not retaliate when He was insulted – was quiet * Did not threaten revenge when He suffered (pay back after resurrection) – was quiet * He left His case in the hands of God who judges fairly – never engaged them in a fight by Himself – quiet and gentle Spirit   **What does that mean to us?**   * Accept the authority of our husbands * We don’t only submit when the decision favors us * We don’t only submit when it is convenient (works with my schedule) * We don’t only submit when our husbands are nice and romantic to us * Christ is our example and we must follow His steps * We must not retaliate when we are insulted * No revenge mission * We must learn to leave our case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly – quiet and gentle * He took the **humble** position of a slave * He (Jesus) **humbled** Himself in obedience to God * He (God) resists the proud but **gives grace** to the **humble**   **Submission is not a gift, but God gives grace to whoever is determined to obey** | |
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| **WEEK 3** | **THE CONCEPT OF SUBMISSION 3 (The hierarchy of leadership)** |
| scriptures | Col 3:18, Eph 5:24, 33b, **1 Peter 3:1-6,** 7c, Phil 2:5-9a, **1 Cor 11:3** |
| * **Submission = to accept authority => to accept the authority of your husband** * **What is the hierarchy of leadership in your organization?** * **Why is there a need for a structure of leadership?** * **What would have happened if there were no hierarchy?**   + **Messed up**   + **No progress**   + **Scattered**   + **Chaos** * **Are there issues with people knowing and taking their place?** * **The hierarchy in the home front does not start with the man, but God Himself. Eph 5:23, 1 Cor 11:3, 14:40**   **GOD -> CHRIST-> MAN -> WOMAN-> CHILDREN**   * **Both man and woman are under authority in marriage**   **Qtn: why do women of our generation find submission difficult and impossible? – (we have no excuse.)**   * **Lack of insight** * **Lack of right counsel / knowledge** * **Lack of attention during premarital counseling** * **Pride** * **People act like they know it all**   **We have not excuse: The Proverbs 31 woman was a wife, mother, mistress, and a career woman, yet she submitted with ease and her home thrived. This is evident through the testimonies of her husband and children – Proverbs 31:10-31** | |
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| * **Submission is not subjection:** * Submission – action taken by the one under authority * Subjection – action taken by the one with authority * Submission must be done obediently, willingly, actively and confidently, not forced * God is not shutting us up, He is teaching us a more effective way of communicating with our husbands * Commanding/correcting a superior is rebellion, you have to go through his superior * The oil doesn’t flow upwards it flows downwards – from Aaron’s head through his beard to the hem of his garment * **Godly living speaks** * **Our lives are a letter written in the hearts of men – v2a, 3c** * **Everyone can read it, including our husbands** * **When they do, there is a recognition of the good work that God is doing in us** * **A letter from Christ showing the results of His investment in us - v3a** * **The Holy Spirit is the writer** * **There is another means of communication that is non-verbal ie.written that can be leveraged on in marriage** * **Let us take advantage of this means of communication** * **And focus on writing a good letter.** * **May the Holy Spirit write about me in my husbands heart** | |
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| **WEEK 5** | **THE CONCEPT OF SUBMISSION 4 (As you do to the Lord)** |
| scriptures | Col 3:18, **Eph 5:24**, 33b, 1 Peter 3:1-6**,** 7c, Phil 2:5-9a |
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| **WEEK 6** | **THE CONCEPT OF SUBMISSION 5 (To what end?)** |
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| scriptures | Col 3:18, Eph 5:24, 33b, 1 Peter 3:1-6**,** 7c, **Phil 2:5-9a** |
| * Submission has an end * It gets us closer to God * The closer we get to God, the more they seek our views before making decisions. * Indirectly, we make the decisions * They submit also to us in many ways * We please God – 1 Peter 2:19 * Above all, it brings elevation to the place of honor in and out of your home – v9a * Humble yourself before the Lord and **He will lift you up** * **Do what is right without fear of what your husbands might do-**    + **take you for granted**   + **use you as doormat**   + lord it over you   + he will take you for a fool * These are all lies from the devil, the bible says they rather **learn** from you and also become more **submissive** to God – we teach them using non-verbal communication * Mary told the **servants** in John 2, whatever He tells you to do, **do it** | |
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