



Sunday, December 29, 2019

MAKE A QUIET COMMITMENT:

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — *“Be still, and know that I am God”* (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — *“to obey is better than sacrifice”* (1 Samuel 15:22)

I. The **WEALTH** of the Believer (1:1-3:21)

II. The **WALK** of the Believer (4:1-6:9)


A. Walk **WORTHY**—**VERTICALLY** before **GOD** (4:1-32)

In Ephesians 4, Paul addresses our *“worthy walk”* as it relates **VERTICALLY BEFORE GOD**. In these verses he addresses some key areas which help **PREPARE** the believer be more effective in his ministry **HORIZONTALLY TOWARD OTHERS**. In order for each of us to **HORIZONTALLY** minister to others, we must first take care of our **VERTICAL** relationship before God.

B. Walk **WORTHY**—**HORIZONTALLY** toward **OTHERS** (5:1-6:9)

1. Walk in **LOVE DISPLAYING** the **LOVE** of **CHRIST** (5:1-2)
2. Walk in **LIGHT REFLECTING** the **LIGHT** of **CHRIST** (5:3-14)
3. Walk in **WISDOM** in the **WORD** of **CHRIST** (5:15-17)
4. Walk in **STEP** with the **SPIRIT** of **CHRIST** (5:18-21)
5. Walk in **HARMONY** in the **WAY** of **CHRIST** (5:22-6:9)

a. Introduction: The Mystery of Marriage (5:31-33)

 Our **WORTHY WALK** is explained by **WALKING IN HARMONY** in the **WAY** of **CHRIST**. We saw how the **MARRIAGE INSTITUTION** has been **CORRUPTED**, which has led to our **MARRIAGE INFLUENCE** being in **CRISIS**. Yet within the *“great mystery”* of marriage we see that **MARRIAGE** is **ILLUSTRATED** best in the **GOSPEL** of **JESUS CHRIST**. Thus, we must commit to keeping God as the final **AUTHORITY OF MARRIAGE**, **CHRIST** as the **OBJECT OF**

MARRIAGE, and faithfulness in our OBEDIENCE IN MARRIAGE.

a. The MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIP (5:22-33)

i. GODLY WIVES Practice WILLFULLY LOVING SUBMISSION (22-24)

It is important that each of us maintain HUMILITY OF MIND, MEEKNESS TOWARD GOD, PATIENCE and LOVE TOWARD OTHERS, SEEKING A UNIFIED COMMUNITY as we seek to understand our OWN RESPONSIBILITIES within each section of teaching.

a) The PRECEPT of Submission COMMANDED (22)



An important key to this passage is to keep in mind the context along with its sister passage—*“be filled with the Spirit”* (Eph 5:18) and *“Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly”* (Col 3:16). Godly wives demonstrate being SPIRIT-FILLED and WORD-FILLED as the willingly and lovingly submit to their *“own husbands, as unto the Lord.”*

Colossians 3:18 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

1. A willing attitude—*“submit yourselves”*

Biblical submission does not refer to PASSIVITY but INTENTIONALITY.

Consider the great place of influence in submission (1 Peter 3:1-4).

1 Peter 3:4 But *let it be* the hidden man of the heart [*the real you*], in that which is not corruptible [*imperishable*], *even the ornament* of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price [*extremely expensive*].

2. A loving attitude—*“your own husband”*

Titus 2:4-5 That they [*the aged women*] may teach the young women to be sober [*self-controlled*], to love their husbands, to love their children, **5** *To be* discreet [*sensible*], chaste [*pure*], keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed [*dishonored*].

3. An attitude of worship—“as unto the Lord”

Everything in this passage points to Christ. The goal of Biblical submission is to glorify God. The goal of marriage is to glorify God.

1 Corinthians 10:31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

Never forget that God is infinitely wise and good. All that He calls us to do is for our best and ultimately for His glory. Never forget the nature of God as you read His Word.

b) The PICTURE of Submission ILLUSTRATED (23-24)

1. A GODLY HUSBAND is a PICTURE of CHRIST’S HEADSHIP (23)

1 Corinthians 11:3 But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.

Biblical submission does not refer to INEQUALITY but HIERARCHY (Galatians 3:28; Colossians 3:11).

Submission does not refer to ABILITY but God’s CREATED ORDER (Genesis 2:18, 21-22).

2. A GODLY WIFE is a PICTURE of the CHURCH’S SUBMISSION (24)

Followers of Christ are to display their love for God in their obedience to Him (John 13:34-35; Joh 14:15).

“...so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.” (Eph 5:24) – This phrase, “in everything” must be taking in harmony with the Word of God, understanding that a wife’s submission is to be in line with God’s Word.



Our WORTHY WALK is explained by WALKING IN HARMONY in the WAY of CHRIST. GODLY WIVES practice WILLING and LOVING SUBMISSION as an ACT OF WORSHIP “as unto the Lord.” A “meek and quiet spirit is in the sight of God of great price.”

What is my next step? Please consider doing the questions on the back of this page.

What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (***Put OFF SIN***)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (***Renew your mind***)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (***Renew your mind***)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?
 - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (***Renew your mind***)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God, ... (***Put ON CHRIST***)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must I demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will I most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: Supremely love GOD,
Sacrificially love others
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!