

Last week's Message - **SUBMIT**

Ephesians 5:21-33

*"And further, you will submit to one another
out of reverence for Christ."*

• HUSBAND AND WIFE. Their marriage is the foundational relationship in human society. Our Creator intended that their relationship would model the way God and people have a happy life shared together. Husband and wife each have their own kind of submission, which creates oneness between them.

• SUBMITTED to another person means that we intentionally put ourselves under their needs and desires because we care about them. We want them to be happy and get the good things and become the best kind of person that God wants them to be. Submit. What sort of service, kindness, respect, affection will make another person happy and fulfilled and cause them to want to live close to us?

• RESPECT and CHERISH

"You wives will submit to your husbands as you do to the Lord...and you husbands must love your wives with the same love Christ showed the church. He gave up his life for her. . . So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband."

RESPECT: The wife's submission. Submit is applied in a specific way to the wife because he needs her to believe in him. She yields to him before becoming contentious. She yields without trying to take charge. She does not want to shoot him down so that he does not feel less of a man. • *"Let the wife see that she respects and reverences her husband, that she notices him, regards him, honors him, prefers him, venerates and esteems him; and that she desires him, praises him, and loves and admires him exceedingly."* Amplified Bible V33

CHERISH: The husband's submission. The Cross -- love that lays down his life - gives up what he wants. *"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. If you don't treat her as you should, your prayers will not be heard."* I Peter 3:7

Oneness is the goal. The other is the intimate friend, not the enemy.