



The church of Christ at Grandview Pines

June 26, 2011

The Meaning of Submission (A Study of Ephesians 5:22)

John Moore

The word submissive translates the Greek word *hypotasso*, which is a cognate of the preposition *hupo*, meaning "under" and the stem *tasso*, meaning "to arrange." In the first century, this word was used as a military term as well as that which described the behavior of a servant to his master (Fritz Rienecker and Cleon Rogers, *Linguistic Key to the Greek New Testament*, p. 538). Others define *hypotasso* to mean subordinate (F. Wilbur Gingrich, *Shorter Lexicon of the Greek New Testament*, p. 208), which is proper as well. In any case, submission connotes a relationship of one who leads and another who follows. It "demands readiness to renounce one's own will for the sake of others . . . and to give precedence to others" (Gerhard Kittel, ed., *Theological Dictionary of New Testament Theology*, 8:45). It certainly involves deference (i.e., polite regard for someone else's wishes, ideas, etc.) as used in *Word Biblical Commentary* (J. Ramsey Michaels, *Word Biblical Commentary: 1 & 2 Peter*, p. 167).

This submission emanates from the wife. It is not forced by her husband as a man might beat a beast into compliance, but rather it is an action displayed from a free will. Scripture does not exist that would imply that a husband is allowed to force, slap, beat, kick, or threaten his wife into submission. Just the opposite is true. (Matt. 5:7; Eph. 4:29-32; 5:22-33; 1 Pet. 3:7; et al) In fact, to abuse a wife is sin. A man who believes he can physically force his wife into submission is mistaken, as she will only acquiesce out of fear for her physical well-being.

Submission as illustrated in 1 Peter 3:5-6, where it is said that "Sarah obeyed Abraham calling him Lord." Her respect for her husband was manifested by giving him a customary/cultural title. This pronouncement from Genesis 18:12 displayed her attitude and her willingness to be placed under the direction of her husband. Women today who also adorn themselves ". . . in subjection unto their own husbands" are spiritually Sarah's daughters (1 Pet. 3:5-6). Indeed, this comparison is a great and noble compliment, especially as contrasted with the worldly "icons" for women in the twentieth century. The women of the world are boisterous and ungodly, while Sarah was meek (i.e., strength grown tender) and chaste. Sarah was courageous and willing to submit while the ungodly women of today are weak and rebellious. A submissive wife does not usurp authority (1 Tim. 2:12) nor seek to be the boss, "wear the pants," nor seek to dominate. Conversely, she must support, follow, and respect her husband.

Submission does not, however, mean that she is inferior or less important. It does not mean she should be uneducated or intellectually inept. It does not mean she never has an opinion, suggestion, or strong will. It does not preclude her expressing her thoughts, desires, ideas, and aspirations. It does not eliminate her industry, contributions, and "savvy" in helping the home, church, community, and nation (Prov. 31). Submission does not negate her influence (1 Tim. 2:15) nor shackle her abilities and talents. Within parameters (and men are restricted in some ways as well), she can teach, counsel, pray, guide, and rule (1 Tim. 5). Submission to her husband does not demand that she disobey the laws of God nor tolerate violence and lawlessness. Submission is not slavery.

Finally, in verse 22 of our text we learn that the submitting is to be done "as unto the Lord." Lord here is not a reference to husbands, for it would have to read *kurioi* (plural), but rather to "the" (definite article) Lord (singular), that is Christ. Herein is given the motivation. Her subordination to her husband is to be seen as her subjection to Christ. For Christian wives, this is a way to serve Christ. They must not reject this authority. When the Israelites rejected the prophet Samuel's authority in favor of an earthly king, God told Samuel that "they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them." (1 Sam. 8:7) Similarly, when wives are disobedient to their husbands, they are rejecting God because Christ's reign over wives demands that they be submissive to the God-ordained authority of the husband in the home.

So Misunderstood

Neal Pollard

I passed her in the hall,
and she frowned as clear as could be,
I thought, "What utter gall
that she would so look at me,
I've always thought her haughty,
old Sister So N So,
She's mean and cold and naughty,
and snooty from head to toe."
But I didn't know the rest of the story,
as I looked her up and down,
I assumed she was full of vainglory
and that was the cause of her frown,
But at home was a non-Christian spouse,
they had bills and much infirmity,
They were close to losing their house,
and they suffered so incredibly.
"He did a poor job on his class,
his song leading, his presiding over the table,
It's a surprise what the elders let pass,
someone so ill-equipped and unable.
He doesn't even want to serve,
he just likes all the notice and glory,
He soaks up the spotlight with such nerve,
yep, it's that same old sad story!"
"She's so prejudiced." "He doesn't like me."
"What is it she has so against me?"
"They're cliquish, self-righteous, persnickety,
a standoffish, uncouth family."
Why do we indulge in such conjecture,
assuming a bad motivation?
Guilty 'til proven innocent, in need of a lecture!
We are bloated with insinuation!
Let's err on the side of charity,
assume that they're trying their best,
Give up conjecture, seek verity,
and not put them to such an austere test.
For such harsh and judgmental rating
says more about us than of them,
It says we're not loving, we're hating,
when so quickly we rush to condemn.
Were we to put the very best construction
on the words, deeds, and hearts of another,
We'd avoid the broad path of destruction,
as we look for the best in our brother!

Bulletin Updates, Changes & Removal of Names

Don't forget to let us know if prayer list or other bulletin information needs to be changed.
Please email Trey Harvell by Friday night. trey.harvell@gmail.com

News, Notes & Nouncements

Welcome Visitors: We are thankful to be able to gather to worship our God (John 4:24). Please take time to fill out a card and place it in the collection plate. If you have questions about what you see or hear we would be glad to answer them after the service. We hope all leave edified and uplifted.

Volunteer Sign-up List for preparation of the Lord's Supper for this year is now available. A few months are still available.

Lisa Wright and Jackie Conyers. Boys bring drinks, girls bring desserts.

Items Needed For the Pantry: Laundry soap, bath soap, hand lotion, baby wipes. Please check expiration dates when buying canned goods. Thanks.

Deacons: The congregation is in the process of selecting deacons. Please pray fervently about fulfilling this need.

Please Silence cell phones so our worship services will not be interrupted.

Monday Night Bible Study: Tomorrow night at 6:30 we will begin our study with Lary Sadler on the different versions of the Bible.

Backwoods Christian Camp:

"Challenge to Change" July 10th - 15th If anyone would like to assist any of our kids financially, please see Terry. We hope all our youth will attend. It would be great to have some adults go as workers as well.

Barnabas Board is in the foyer for posting notes of encouragement, **Youth Devotional:** June 26th after evening services. Host families will be **Camp meeting following evening services**

Prayer List

(in alphabetical order by last name)

Lee Bowren - (A. Sadler's mother) in two inoperable aneurisms. Continue nursing home in Heber Springs, AR to pray for him.

Peggy Rice - (Janice Clauch's mother)

David Brown - (Mont. Police officer) recovering from serious motorcycle accident **Charlie Gibbs** - (K. Cross's grandfather) health issues

Alex Stinson - had wisdom teeth removed this past week.

Addison Hall - going for follow-up tests in October.

June Stringer - broken arm.

Linda Bush - Prattville Rehab & Nursing Home, RM 212

Myra Hall - expecting & dealing with gall stones, will be going to the doctor

Tina Tatum - at home following a stay in the hospital

Stuart Burkey - (Lonnie's son) having cancer. **Karen Hatcher** - (E. Howard's mother) Had surgery this past week. monitored twice a week concerning the baby's heart rate.

Marilyn Hatcher - (E. Howard's mother) Had surgery this past week. She will be taking chemo treatments.

Mickey Thomas - (former member) Room 313 Prattville Rehab

Kim Clauch—at home. She will be monitored twice a week concerning the baby's heart rate.

Tim Johnson - (G. Shelton's uncle) undergoing cancer treatments

Amy Turner - continuing to deal with illness.

Amber Conrad - (T. Harvell's cousin) back at work, recovering from surgery following an auto accident

Katie King - Assisted Living room 408, Charleston Place, Old Prattville Hwy.

Kevin Turner - ALS

Russell Cooper - (B. Little's brother) **Tim Johnson** - (G. Shelton's uncle) undergoing cancer treatments

Juanita Waggoner - (M. Stinson's aunt) advanced stage of Parkinson's Disease

Joel Couch - (baby of Josh and Amanda Couch - friends of C. Harvell) suffering from a seizure disorder that's affecting development.

Angel Koche is having some complications with her pregnancy. **Holly Sadler** (Jay's wife) diagnosed with diabetes and liver damage.

Military personnel & their families

Jerry Davidson - (Director of Guyana missions) Parkinson's Disease

Rayford Lee - (J. Sadler's father-in-law)

-Matthew Cooper (Basic—AIT)
-Britt Shores (Afghanistan)

Charles Dobbins - (friend of the May family) under hospice care.

Buddy Little - had bypass surgery this past week.

-Keith Cleveland (C. Cleveland's grandson, Iraq returning home in June)

Vicki Dobbins - (friend of the May family) fell off ladder with lower back pain—at home recovering

Walter & Cheryl May - (R. May's parents) both facing physical ailments

-Keith Golden (Goldens' son)
-Joshua Corey-deployed

Sydney Fuller - (G. Fuller's bother) has pain—after knee surgery.

Rosie Price - Starting physical therapy

-Joel Jackson
-Barry Freeman
-Matthew Martin

-Stewart Burkey
-Todd Wheeler-being deployed

Congregational Information

Elders:

Terry Claunch.....285-4142
 Glenn Fuller.....365-4923
 Lary Sadler.....285-7455

Preacher:

Terry Claunch
 Study.....285-6327
 Home.....285-4142
 Cell.....313-1539

Work of Evangelism:

Home Bible Studies
 Bible Correspondence Studies
 Biblical Tracts
 Staton & Tutwiler Prisons
 Sermon CDs & Cassettes
 Gospel Broadcasting Network

Work of Benevolence:

Food Pantry
 Guyana Missions—Summerdale Congregation
 1st Sunday singing & devo-Autumn Place
 2nd Sunday singing—Merry Wood Lodge
 Clothes for Panama
 Eye Glasses for Thailand
 Assistance to those in need

Work of Edification:

Sunday
 Bible Class.....9:00 AM
 Worship.....10:00 AM
 Worship.....5:00 PM
 3rd Monday
 Bible Study.....6:30 PM
 Wednesday
 Ladies' Class.....10:30 AM
 Bible Class.....7:00 PM

Internet

www.grandviewpineschurch.org
contact@grandviewpineschurch.org
Look for us on Facebook!
 (Grandview Pines church of Christ &
 Grandview Pines church of Christ Youth)

Where We Meet

165 Deatsville Hwy,
 Millbrook, AL, 36054

Privileged to Serve

Sunday Worship Services

	Today: June 26th	Next Week: July 3rd - TBD
AM Service		
Announcements	J. Hammonds	
Song Leader	J. Clauch	
Opening Prayer	L. Sadler	
Scripture Reading	K. Moody Proverbs 12:22-28	
Lord's Supper - Head	T. Young	
Lord's Supper - Serve	G. Young J. Hall N. Girod B. Cooper	
Closing Prayer	J. Ezekiel	
PM Service		
Announcements	J. Hammonds	
Song Leader	J. Clauch	
Opening Prayer	C. Price	
1st Sunday Sermon		
Lord's Supper	T. Young	
Closing Prayer	J. Hammonds	

Sunday Helpers' List

Foyer Attendant	J. Hammonds	
Greeters	L. Johnston M. Stinson	
Nursery Attendant	B. Little	
Shut-In Communion	K. Moody	
Wednesday Bible Study		
	This Week: June 29th	Next Week: July 6th - TBD
Song Leader	L. Sadler	
Invitation	T. Young	
Closing Prayer	C. Mayne	

* If you cannot meet your scheduled duty & cannot find a replacement, please contact Jim Hammonds.

Do You Know Your Bible?

This Week's Question	Answer to Last Week's Questions <i>Can you name the seven churches of Asia found in Rev. 2-3?</i>
By what other descriptive names are elders known?	Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea