

# Submission?!

Ephesians 5:21

## Introduction

### I The Scope Of Our Submission

- A. We are to submit to God - Job 22:21; 2 Chr 30:8
- B. We are to submit to authorities - Rom 13:1-2, 5-7; 1 Pet 2:13-14
- C. We are to submit to spiritual leaders - Heb 13:17; 1 Cor 16:16
- D. Wives are to submit to husbands - Eph 5:22-24; Col 3:18
- E. Children are to submit to parents - Ex 20:12; Eph 6:1-3
- F. Young people are to submit to elders - 1 Pet 5:5-6
- G. Employees are to submit to employers - Eph 6:5-8; 1 Pet 2:18
- H. We are all to submit to one another - Eph 5:21; 1 Pet 5:5-6

### II The Fundamentals Of Submission

- A. Recognition of its meaning
  - Submission** = Putting another's mission above my own
- B. Recognition of God
  - 1. His character
    - a. God is love
    - b. God is all-knowing
    - c. God is all-powerful
  - 2. His leadership
    - a. All authority is instituted by Him - Rom 13:1-2
- C. Recognition of Christ's example - Phil 2:3-11
  - 1. Submission requires humility - 2 Cor 8:9
  - 2. Submission requires a servant heart - Matt 20:25-28
  - 3. Submission requires obedience - Heb 5:7-9

### III The Goal Of Submission

- A. Christ-likeness
- B. Unity in the church
- C. Expansion of the kingdom of God
- D. God's glory

## PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. What kind of things come to mind when the world hears the word, *submission*? What comes to your mind?
2. What makes biblical submission so different from the world's perception of submission?
3. How is our mutual submission to one another in the body of Christ and expression of reverence for Christ? What, then, does a lack of submission communicate?
4. Read Romans 8:6-8 and 10:3. What explanation does the Bible give as to why some people fail to submit to God?
5. Is it necessary to agree with or like an individual in order to submit to them? When would submission be sinful?
6. Submission is a voluntary act of yielding to and cooperating with another person or authority. It can be applied to God, government authority, employers, husbands, etc. Share briefly your level of comfort in submitting yourself in the context of these various relationships. What makes it challenging?
7. Share one area in your life where you are having a difficult time submitting to God (spouse, boss, circumstances, finances)? How can you apply what you have learned to your situation?
8. Submit yourself to God -- to His purposes -- to His plan. Surrender yourself to Him right now and tell Him that you are ready to do His will no matter what the cost.

**BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE**

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