

Introduction

- Where is it hardest for most people to live as Christians?
- Why?
- What is Paul going to teach us in Ephesians 5:22 – 6:4?
- Why is it important not to switch off if you're not married?
- How do v22-24 sound to us today?

i What submission is not

- What is the normal context of the Greek word ὑποτάσσω (submit)?
- Does it imply that the one submitting is inferior to the one submitted to?
- What does I Corinthians 15:28 say about God the Son?
- Does this mean that he is inferior to God the Father?
- So what three things is submission not?
 - (i)
 - (ii)
 - (iii)
- Is submission demeaning, undignified, debasing and humiliating?

ii What submission is

- What is a good picture to show what submission looks like in a marriage?
- If a husband and wife are meant to be one, how many heads should there be?
- Give some other examples of noble submission.
- What example does Paul himself give here?
- Give some practical examples of what submission might look like in married life.
- Is it always easy to be a submissive wife?

iii How submission comes

- What is the first thing Paul says which can help wives to be submissive?
- How does v21 relate to Ephesians 5:22 – 6:9?
- So what does it say about how wives can submit to their husbands?
- How does reverence for Christ help a Christian wife to submit?
- How does that take submission to a higher level?
- What is the second thing Paul says which can help wives to be submissive?
- The wife's submission to her husband should point to the church's submission to Christ. Who, in v25, is the husband meant to point to?
- What should someone be able to learn by looking at a wife submitting to her husband?
- Why does that give a wife a powerful motivation to be submissive?
- What attitude does each of us need to have concerning Christ?
- What must you do if that is not true of you?