

Ephesians 5:18-21 ¹⁸ *And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess* [And don't drink wine because it takes control of your life]; *but be filled with the* [Holy] *Spirit*; ¹⁹ *Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord*; ²⁰ *Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ*; ²¹ *Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.*

Ephesians 5:22-24 ²² *Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.* ²³ *For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the savior of the body.* ²⁴ *Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be* [submissive] *to their own husbands in everything.*

Ephesians 5:30-33 ³⁰ *For we are members of his* [Jesus'] *body, of his flesh, and of his bones.* ³¹ *For this cause* [because the husband's relationship with his wife is a demonstration of Christ's relationship with His church] *shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.* ³² *This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.* ³³ *Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.*

I. Introduction

A. Spirit of the gospel is complete surrender (submission) to God

1. Family life should be characterized by serving each other in love, preferring another's comfort over your own (Romans 12:10).
2. Christian family life is supposed to show lifestyle opposite to secular society

B. Example of Christ's surrender

1. Jesus set the example for us. The Son of God was living in heaven and being worshipped as He deserves. But He left His rightful place and became a man, born as every other person is born. He left in heaven anything that would identify Him as God ("became of no reputation," Philippians 2:7). He walked to cities and taught people about God and His ways without any way to support Himself or His disciples ("took upon him the form of a servant"), healing better than any doctor and feeding better than any farmer. His whole life He served others. His last act of service was to pay a debt everyone has, but no one could pay themselves.

John 10:30 I [Jesus] *and my Father are one.*

- a. When Jesus made this statement the Jews understood what He meant but were not willing to believe Him. Jesus was not a man claiming to be God
 John 10: 33 *The Jews answered him, saying, "For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God."*
 - b. But rather Jesus, as God, voluntarily became a man: "God with us"
 Matthew 1:23 *Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, **God with us.***
 John 1:14 *And the Word [Jesus] was made flesh, and dwelt [lived] among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*
2. Mind of Christ
- a. Jesus was willing to leave the glory of heaven, willing to live in poverty on earth
 Philippians 2:5, 7 ⁵ *Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: ... ⁷ But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:*
 - b. Jesus set aside His "God" abilities & privileges and lived as a common man
 Philippians 2:8 *And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*
 - c. Jesus suffered spiritually (paying for all human sin), physically (tortured), & emotionally (betrayed)
 Matthew 26:39, 42 ³⁹ *And he [Jesus] went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt." ... ⁴² He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, "O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done."*
- C. Understand that we are living in the Biblical "Last Times" (1 John 2:18) which are characterized by rebellion against God and His plan for order in society. Last days are called "perilous times" on earth
- 1. People have become lovers of their own self & boasters
 2 Timothy 3:1-2 ¹ *This know also [Timothy, you need to also know], **that in the last days perilous times shall come.** ² *For men shall be **lovers of their own selves**, covetous, **boasters**, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,**
 - 2. Many argue, "I'm right.", or "I want my rights." Can lead to hatred & violence

II. Source of Surrender (verses 18-21)

A. Begins with Christian surrender

1. Begins with Christian new birth

John 3:5 *Jesus answered* [to Nicodemus], *“Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.”*

- a. Person born physically “of water” in amniotic sac inside mother
- b. Person born spiritually “of the Holy Spirit” – regeneration – when they understand their need for and then accept Christ as their savior

2. All Christians have Holy Spirit living inside them

Romans 8:9 *But ye are* [But your ability to understand Truth as revealed by God is] *not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his* [If any person doesn't have the Holy Spirit living in them, they do not belong to Christ].

3. But question, “Does Holy Spirit have all of you?”

- a. “Drunk with wine” is “under the influence of a foreign substance;” your mind is clouded and not able to make objective decisions
- b. Drunk is not being controlled by your right decision-making process, uninhibited by built-in cautions meant to protect you from harm.
- c. Sober is living “right-minded”
- d. Sober is living realistically & not making bad decisions
- e. A Holy Spirit-controlled mind will make the best decisions for this life and our eternal well-being

B. Spiritual filling

1. Filled with the Spirit is under the control of God's Spirit

2. God's Holy Spirit remains with Christian

1 John 2:27 *But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you* [But the Holy Spirit, which you received from Christ, still lives within you], *and ye need not that any man teach you* [and the Holy Spirit has promised to lead you into all Truth, so you don't need men to teach you (see John 16:13)]; *but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him* [and just as the Holy Spirit has taught you, you need to live in Christ].

3. Jesus told Samaritan woman that He could give her living water

John 4:14 *But whosoever drinketh of* [But anyone that drinks] *the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.*

4. Be controlled by God's Spirit by counting yourself dead to sin
Romans 6:11 *Likewise reckon ye also [Likewise consider] yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.*
5. How do you know that you have been filled with Holy Spirit?
 - a. When you talk meditate about God according to His Word
 - b. When you pray to God in thanksgiving
 - c. When your heart breaks out with songs & praise
 - d. When you show the fruit of the Spirit in your life
Galatians 5:22-23 ²² **But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,** ²³ *Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*

C. Spiritual cooperation

1. Spiritual cooperation begins with submitting to each other, read verse 21
2. The Holy Spirit does not intend for you to submit to sinful practices
Galatians 5:24 *And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.*
3. Work to keep the unity of the Spirit
Ephesians 4:2-3 ² [Live your life in a manner worthy to be called children of God,] *with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another* [being patient with one another] *in love;* ³ **Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**
4. Living personally in the fear of God knowing that God always remembers you
Proverbs 9:10 **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.**
5. Practice living the presence of God in your life

III. Spirit of Surrender (The life of a godly wife, verses 22-24)

A. God created marriage

1. God created marriage for people (see Genesis 2) and man and woman for marriage
2. Submit means "to put in order, arrange, voluntary cooperation, willing to support". God designed order in the home with the idea of one leader & a support system
3. Submission is not an indication of inferiority or lesser value.
4. Husband should provide leadership, wife should support

B. Understand priority of submission

1. Meaning of word “submit”
 - a. To order or to arrange
 - b. Comes with meaning to subordinate
2. Wife’s role in marriage
 - a. Freely gives cooperation with her husband
 - b. Supports leadership of her husband
3. Opposition to God is lack of submission; the opposite of submission is rebellion. What God says about rebellion:

1 Samuel 15:22-23 ²² *And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.* ²³ **For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king.**

- a. Rebellion & stubbornness is witchcraft & idolatry (all punishable by death under the Mosaic Law)
- b. Religious forms of worship are not as valuable to God as the submission to God’s Word
- c. Anger & violence are not from God
- d. God looks for Christians to listen & obey

C. Understand grace of submission

James 4:6-7 ⁶ *But he [God] giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, “**God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.**”* ⁷ *Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you (See Jeremiah 50:31)*

1. Grace comes from God – free gift
2. Graciousness is Christian virtue
3. The Devil will always be in rebellion to God’s commands

IV. Service of Surrender (verses 30-33)

A. Serve by role

1. God’s order among humans
 - a. God’s order of leadership – God → Christ → man → woman

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.*

- b. Order of leadership in marriage is husband over wife
 - i. Role of husband is leadership
 - ii. Role of wife to support leadership
- 2. But there is no superiority or inferiority in God's sight

*Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, **there is neither male nor female**: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.*

 - a. All is level at the foot of the cross (no one is above anyone else in God's view)
 - b. Do not let Christian faith be identified with worldly philosophies or victimized by worldly philosophies (social agendas, politics of various stripes, social movements, etc)
- 3. Two keys to condition of wife's submission
 - a. To her own husband
 - b. As to the Lord
- 4. Why?
 - a. Because both spouses continue to have spiritual struggle
 - b. Because both spouses continue to have sinful old nature
- B. Serve with respect
 - 1. Both spouses ideally members of family of God (saved)
 - 2. Great mystery of the church being joined with Christ as pictured by the joining in marriage
 - 3. Quotation from Genesis 2:24 – joined together & one flesh
 - 4. Respect God's truth

2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
 - 5. Each spouse to respect each other
 - a. Husband to love & honor their wife

*1 Peter 3:7 Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, **giving honor unto the wife**, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.*
 - b. Wife to respect & appreciate their husband, Ephesians 5:33
 - c. Submission to one-another in the church in general, Ephesians 5:21

- d. Submission is not a military command structure it is a voluntary acknowledgement of God's designed order: God, the Father -> God the Son -> Husbands -> Wives -> Children (1 Corinthians 11:3 & Ephesians 6:1)

V. Conclusion

- A. All people are equal in God's sight: Everyone is loved, but everyone needs the salvation that only God can give. No person can save themselves
- B. Illustration of two jars
 - 1. One jar filled with dirt & water: The person filled with themselves
 - 2. Other jar filled with clean water: The person filled with the Holy Spirit
- C. Has God come into your life? Only God can forgive your sins & give you a new life