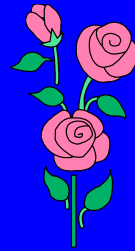


# Biblical Reflections on Marriage

## Session 5: God's Blueprint for Marriage



Second Presbyterian Church  
Greenville, SC  
Pastor Rick Phillips

# The Marriage Redeemed

- Recapping Genesis 2: the man as servant-lord (nurture & protect), the woman as servant-helper.
- The dynamics of intimacy, commitment, & interdependence, resulting in oneness, trust, and cooperation
- Recapping Genesis 3: sin producing alienation, the curse of conflict between the man and the woman & difficulty living in the world
- The marriage redeemed: putting God first & turning from manipulation to ministry

# The Redeemed Woman in Marriage: Ephesians 5:22-24

## Feminine Submission in Marriage

- Mutual Submission? Eph. 5:21
- Read Your Own Mail!
- What is submission? *Hypotassomai* – to subordinate oneself; “voluntary yielding”
- Do only women submit?
- Submit in... *everything*.
- Submission to whom? *Husbands*
- On what terms? *As to the Lord*

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

*Ephesians 5:22-24*

# The Redeemed Woman in Marriage: Ephesians 5:22-24, 33

## Feminine Submission in Marriage

- The husband as head
- Are there limits?
- Who has authority over the husband?
- Does this diminish or enrich her womanhood?

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands... Let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.  
*Ephesians 5:22-24, 33*

# The Redeemed Woman in Marriage: 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:1-6

## Feminine Submission: 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:1-6

- “Be subject” – same word
- What if the husband isn’t a Christian?
- Sarah: “She called him Lord.”
- “Do not fear” – v. 6

Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives— 2 when they see your respectful and pure conduct. 3 Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair, the wearing of gold, or the putting on of clothing— 4 but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God’s sight is very precious. 5 For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their husbands, 6 as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening.

# The Redeemed Woman in Marriage: Feminine Submission

## Feminine Submission: How to?

- Remember the curse!
- Remember your calling – to help
- Voluntary yielding
- R-E-S-P-E-C-T!
- Biblical Examples: Sarah, Rachel, Mary
- “She called him lord.”
- Proverbs 31 – “He trusts her... she does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life... Her husband is known in the gates when he sits among the elders of the land... Strength and dignity are her clothing... Her children rise up and call her blessed.”

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# The Redeemed Woman in Marriage: Feminine Submission

## The Submissive Wife Is Still...

- Made in God's Image, co-equal with man
- A Helper
- A Teammate
- A Sister In-Christ
- God's Daughter

# The Redeemed Woman in Marriage: True Beauty

Beauty that never dies...

- The beauty rules.
- Beauty that never fades
- Beauty that wields spiritual power (vv. 1-2)
- “The imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit... precious in God’s sight”
- Does this mean you have to be frumpy?
- True Women’s Liberation
- “If you do not fear”

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