

BIG IDEA: God wants our marriages to draw attention to him.**1) INTRO**

- Walking through 1 & 2 Peter
- Last week – submit to gov’t, masters/employers
 - Grounded in JC
- Today, continuation of submission talk
- Not popular today
 - For 2000 yrs... ‘60s to ‘80s
 - Progressed...outdated
 - Humility & submissiveness are not seen as character qualities, but condemned as weaknesses
- Ask that singles don’t tune out/check out
 - Not yet married...get this down now...building a home
 - Been married...widow/widower...we want to learn from you – positives & negative

2) vv1-2

- See the continuation of the call to submit/be subject to right away
- “Likewise, wives, be subject to”
 - “Likewise” is another connecting word
 - What’s been said w/ what will be said
 - So, continuing on...
 - Command to be subj to husbands...“own husbands”
- Be subject to/submit to
 - GRK word - to subject oneself too, or subordinate, or obey
 - BDAG – “submission involves recognition of an ordered structure”
 - The point is leadership
 - God, gov’t, masters/employers...husbands, parents
 - When those are upside down, things fall apart...4 kids at home – disorder
 - We all live in submission to someone
 - Not mutual – (examples)

- Every husband is a leader in the home – it’s a question of whether he’s a good one or not
- Ordered structure is in the home
 - Not showing us importance or rank...but role
 - Not a hierarchical order
 - The enemy would love for our homes to be in disarray
 - Our witness to a lost world would suffer
 - What would be appealing about disorder?
- God wants wives to submit & husbands lovingly lead (Eph 5)
 - Voluntary submission...husb don’t tell wives to submit
- “so that” – is...so that unbelieving husbands might be saved
 - Passage applies all wives – married to believers & unbelievers
 - Specific note to wives married to unbelievers
 - Respect & conduct/manner of life may win him over
 - Cutting comments/confrontational spirit...live for God
 - Lee Strobel – “Case for Christ”...way of life
 - We’re proclaimers (2:9)...but not naggers or pushers
 - Not example to marry an unbeliever - OT & NT are clear

3) vv3-4

- What are we preoccupied with? Internal or external?
- Our culture focuses on external – tv, magazines, social media
- Not wrong to want to look beautiful – hair, jewelry, clothing
 - God doesn’t forbid these – doesn’t forbid clothing
 - If obsessed with these, no diff than the world
- Beautiful to God – and to man pursues God – wife’s character
 - Shown in gentle & quiet spirit
 - Not that wives don’t speak, give input, influence husbands
 - Godly wife is humble...actions/reactions to husband aren’t explosive, condemning, or demanding
 - This heart is precious to her husb & to God
 - This heart/character quality is imperishable
 - Make-up comes off at night, sweatpants come on at night – but, heart attitude is who you are
 - Been deeply affected by JC
- May such a heart be on display for JC
 - This kind of heart draws attention to God

4) vv5-6

- Grounded in history of the Bible
 - Often, these passages are for particular people, not us today
 - Timeless truth - created order (1 Tim 2), history (1 Pet 3)
 - Ex. is Sarah submitting to Abraham & obeyed him
 - Models of inner beauty, character, modesty & submission
 - Adorned themselves w/ the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit
 - “lord/master” was common expression of respect & subm
 - “do not fear”
 - Wives of unbelieving husbands could easily fear
 - Their husband could be harsh or rough
 - Encouraged to fear God but to avoid fear of other people even in midst of persecution
 - To hope in God in the midst of all situations
- This wife draws attention to JC

5) v7

- Husbands aren't let off the hook in marriage
- “Likewise” points to a new group after other groups
- Husband submits to loving duty to be sensitive to needs, fears, feelings
- The call's to live w/ our wife in a sensitive way...not insensitive
 - Not to be domineering/aggressive or passive
 - Don't bark orders, aren't rough/mean, demanding, inconsiderate or harsh
 - Abuse – never, ever abuse a woman
 - Don't treat our wives like doormats
 - We also aren't passive deadbeats
 - Avoid/hide in man cave...garage
 - We're present husbands who study our wives – understanding/knowledge
 - Study our wives – strengths, weaknesses, happy, sad
 - Give time, attention, energy, care
- “weaker vessel”
 - Notice it says “weak-er”, not “weak” ...we're all weak
 - Not weaker intellectually, emotionally...but rather physically
 - See this in sports – hs track, rugby

• “Bump in the night”

- “honor”
 - Compliment & encourage...regularly & often
 - Don't speak negatively of our wife
 - Eyes only for her
 - Show wife you love her and are blessed by her
 - Spoil her...5 love language – words of affirmation, acts of service, gifts, quality time, phys touch (why not all??)
 - Make sure she knows she's a treasured daughter of the King
 - Treasured by you and by God
- “heirs with you of the grace of life”
 - Man's not superior, God makes clear that's not the case
 - Greco-Roman culture saw women as inferior, but the NT shows that to be untrue
 - Equals in sight of God as sinners saved by grace
 - Both weak people who need the saving work of JC
 - We're partners in the gospel
- “so that your prayers may not be hindered”
 - “so that” – b/c
 - b/c our relationship w/ God is hindered if we don't live w/ our wife in a godly way
 - Even to where God won't even pay attention to our prayers
 - Difficult to draw attention to God when we're not in right relationship w/ him
- BIG IDEA

6) CLOSING

- Don't you want your marriage to draw attention to JC?
 - I do
 - And, I know I have work to do...I know you do too
 - Ask God to show you how you can grow in this...the areas your weak
- Praise JC we have forgiveness in how we've failed in this...have HS
 - We're forgiven as we'll sing now
 - May we follow our King who died and rose for us
 - BIG IDEA