

Week 8

Love Compels Us (2)

Submission

"Submit to one another out of reverence to Christ" -Ephesians 5:21

No one seems to like the word submission. Why should I have to submit to you? Who died and made you king? We all resist the idea of being forced to submit, to being bossed and controlled by other people. The passage in Ephesians 5:21 offers a different perspective. First of all the word "submit" is grammatically in the middle voice which means that submitting is neither something that is done to us passively nor is it something we force upon others actively. Instead, we choose to submit. It is not by force or hierarchy or in recognition of position. We submit willfully and intentionally. Second, this passage mentions a clear motive for our choice of submission, "out of reverence to Christ." Christ willingly yielded to the needs of others, he willingly yielded to the will of the Father, he even willingly yielded to injustice and suffering. We submit to others not because we are forced to and not because others are superior or better than we are. We submit because we choose to honor Christ's manner of life. Christ submitted to others, so we submit to others.

We submit to teachers when we honor their assignments. We submit to leaders when we honor their decisions in matters of opinion. We submit to our spouses when we willingly choose what is best for them, their movie choice, their needs of the moment, their decisions. We submit to parents when we honor their instructions and their teaching. When we submit to others, we honor the life of Christ.

This Week:

- Reflect on those places in your life where you are often in conflict with someone else; your boss, your spouse, your parents, a co-worker. Pray for the grace to willingly and joyfully yield to the will of the other.

Week 8

Feb 21-27

Sun	<i>What specific action can you do this week related to your growth goals?</i>			21
Micah Ellis, Matthew Ellis				
Mon	Ex 3,4	1Th 1	Psa 36	22
Washington's Birthday				
Tue	Ex 5,6	1Th 2	Psa 37	23
Wed	Ex 7,8	1Th 3	Psa 38	24
Thr	Ex 9	1Th 4	Psa 39	25
Fri	Ex 10,11	1Th 5	Psa 40	26
Sat				27
Purim				