

# Submit to One Another

Pastor Barb & Vince and Pastors Brian & Connie

## Scripture

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.<sup>22</sup>Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup>For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, His body, of which He is the Savior. <sup>24</sup>Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

## Thought

The word “submit” sounds like a term used in war. One country submits to another, one wrestler submits to another or one spouse submits to another. It also sounds like a concession of defeat. There is a winner and a loser, but we all know that in marriage it is rarely so simple as one loses while one wins. Vince and I were both pigheaded in our early years of marriage, so neither of us wanted to admit defeat or willingly submit to one another on any issue that we were passionate about. This of course led to many standoffs and show downs; angry words and heated tears in our household. We had to learn how to submit to one another. How to find the common ground otherwise known as compromise, and compromise means no one gets everything they want all the time. Pastor Jachin gave a definition one week that brought so much clarity to us regarding submission. He said submission simply means to “come under mission.” We were reminded that God had a mission for our marriage. God brought Vince and I together for a purpose – a mandate that goes beyond him and I and all the little day to day things that can try to get us to engage in battle with each other. Every marriage has its’ moments when it feels like a battle. News flash - that’s because you are in a battle, but it’s not with each other and while you do have an enemy – that enemy is not your spouse.

Here is some great advice from Pastors Brian and Connie regarding this: Ephesians 6:12 We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age... We need to be spiritually aware. We don’t fight each other (flesh and blood) but against the demon forces that are coming against you and your marriage. The quicker you can identify these attacks and resist the better for your marriage. When there is a problem, both of you work together to deal with the problem. There are a few rules that we have in our house about fighting or disagreements.

1. We don’t talk about financial difficulties at night.
2. We don’t talk about finances in our bedroom.

If any of those things come up, then we make an appointment and we talk about it in a neutral place. In the morning with a coffee at the dinner table is good. Or go somewhere in public where you need to be kind to each other. We make an appointment and we basically say “this is the problem” so that we can visualize it. (For example, if the problem is a bill, put it in the middle of the table) You are not the problem. I am not the problem. This is the problem. Now, what are we going to do about it? This helps us not attack each other with, “You never...” or “You always...” Identify the problem – Brainstorm for solutions. We can find answers if we both attack the problem rather than each other.

Realize you can WIN against every demonic attack that comes against you. Eph 6:10 – Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. (NKJ)

Join with each other, come into agreement and fight together against the problem and submit to the mission God has for you as a couple.

## Action Step

God has a mission for your marriage. Have you been viewing your spouse as your enemy? When you take a step back, can you recognize the strategy of the enemy against your mission? Are you ready to fight for your marriage instead of within your marriage? Are there some issues that you can revisit and now come to a place of mutual submission to each other instead of those issues becoming weapons against each other? Take time to pray with each other and recommit to fighting for your marriage no matter what comes your way.

## The Day

## Prayer

Lord, thank you that we can win every battle when we fight on the same side. Give us discernment to know when the enemy is winning and the strategy to beat him. I forgive my spouse right now and will walk in forgiveness every day. In Jesus Name. Amen

## P.S.

It’s time to come under mission again as a couple and build the FAM!