

Angie's Marriage Column – January 9, 2008

### **I Want to Submit to My Husband**

**Question:** How do I tell my husband that I want to submit to him, I want him to follow the biblical teaching? This is my inner desire to serve my husband as Christ served God, how can I tell him this?

**Guidance:** This is a great question and I am happy to see that someone is finally asking about this issue. I have had wives in the past tell me they wish their husband would take more of the lead in the home or discipline the children more, and so on and so forth. The best guidance I can tell you is to first be an example of a Godly wife to your husband.

Instead of telling your husband “what” he should be, or “how” he should behave, or “why” you believe he should... Show him by just doing your part. You are on the right track by wanting to be the godly wife that God wants you to be – now just BE *that* wife through your actions. Your loving actions will tell your husband more than your words.

Sadly, we cannot MAKE someone follow the biblical teaching. But we can lead them to the biblical teaching through our own love of God. SHOW husband “what” godly submission is, so he will understand what his position as head of the wife truly means. We cannot tell others how to be or what to be, but we can change and work on ourselves in the hopes that through our example we are serving others and being the person God created us to become. We are only responsible for our part in the marriage.

Popular culture, and even mainstream Christianity delight in perverting what submission and spiritual influence really are. But they both have a purpose in marriage and that purpose is so couples can love one another properly. No wonder more and more women are having a difficult time with this issue. Unfortunately, when we rebel against God's design for marriage, it takes society even further away spiritually from the TRUTH as they become more blind and close-minded to God's true intentions for couples in marriage.

As it is God created divisions of influence in order for the world to function efficiently. Marriage is not any different; there must be divisions of authority and influence in marriage so it too, can function efficiently. Couples need to stop making the issues of authority and submission a barrier to destroy the sanctity of marriage; instead they should use their God given talents and unique abilities to strengthen each other and to glorify God with.

We're not talking about hierarchy here. We're talking about division of influence. No ship has two captains. No business has two CEO's and no marriage has two heads butting each other. If they do, what do you think is going to happen? That's right, it's going to do down with the bath water.

Read on to understand the position that God has blessed you with and begin to be that man or woman to please God!! That's all about it.

Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:14-16 KJV)

## ARTICLE FOR HUSBANDS

I Want To Be The Spiritual Head of Our Household  
Copyright © 2007 Heaven Ministries

*I want to be the Godly man of the household and take care of my family. I want to be responsible for our growth in Christ and our worship to Him. I want us to find ways to praise His name in our daily lives through service and many of the options available. However, my wife has to allow me to have that role - it doesn't seem like she's willing to let me assume that role.*

Unfortunately many husbands, rather than fuss and argue with their wife over this issue, give up and give in, but is that really necessary. I have talked

to many wives on this subject and they tell me that the husband is not doing his job, and wish that he would take charge and be the leader of the home. And the husbands tell me their wives have already taken charge and so there is nothing more for them to take the lead in. What a vicious cycle.

What happens when a husband does not take his position in the home with the importance it deserves? Roles become reversed, and both husband and wife become resentful over the fact that each is not taking responsibility in the areas they should be. For instance, the wife takes charge of the finances because her husband doesn't do it, or he is not organized, or that he spends too much money. It is not that a wife should not be in charge of the finances but, and this is a big but, but, if the husband or wife feels resentful over it, then something obviously needs to be rectified here.

**I believe with all my heart that many of the issues and problems in marriage would completely vanish once the big issue of spiritual headship and submission can be understood and then properly applied in the marriage.** Resentment of each other gives couples a bad attitude, a bad attitude breeds destructiveness and unproductively in the marriage; it all becomes nothing but negativity soaking up the thoughts, beliefs and actions of the couples which eventually causes major problems, such as addiction, infidelity, depression, etc.

Husbands need to be communicating better with their wives and discussing with them what they are going to do as far as taking charge of what God has specified for them to take charge of, namely, the position of spiritual headship of the home. Unfortunately, a husband cannot make his wife support his headship position in the home, but he can continue to pray about it, asking God to help him be patient, kind, and loving with his wife rather than make himself to feel resentful. Let your wife see Christ working in you! Shine your light on your wife.

When the going gets tough - pray some more. God will listen.

Spiritual leadership in the home involves more than just words. The husband absolutely must be under the direction and authority of Christ. Jesus Christ should be made the director over the husband/wife and when a man can freely submit his will to Christ, he is ready to take charge and

lead his home in a godly manner in all areas. And a wife can freely submit her will to her husband and allow her husband to do what God appointed him to do.

So the bottom line here is we must take all things to Christ and place him as our authority in our lives in ALL things. He is our head, from which everything flows.

Scripturally for the believer, a husband's priorities are to be as follows:

1. God/Christ
2. Wife, family
3. Fellow man/ministry
4. self

Scripturally for the believer, a wife's priorities are to be as follows:

1. God/Christ
2. Husband, family
3. Fellow man/ministry
4. self

“Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. “I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” (John 15:2-5 NIV)

### Questions and Answers for Couples

1. How can I "show" spiritual headship rather than control my wife to do what I want?

Answer: Pray about it and ask God to help you be the husband you were meant to be.

Answer: Pray for your wife and with your wife about it.

2. In what three areas can couples learn to understand their position in the marriage with a better understanding?

a. biblical study and research (write down how you will both do this)

b. prayer together (write down how you will both do this)

c. growth in God's Word together (write down how you will both do this)

3. How can I learn to not get disappointed when my wife doesn't listen to my headship authority?

Answer: Don't have expectations. Be patient with your wife. Keep praying for your wife and let her see Jesus Christ working in you by being the loving and gentle husband you are.

## ARTICLE FOR WIVES

How a Wife Can Help Her Husband Take His Headship Position

Copyright 2010 - Heaven Ministries

What does headship mean to you? Headship is a position given to husbands as a means for him to lead and manage his home in a healthy emotional and spiritual manner. God commands that husbands oversee their household by protecting his wife and family from outside negative influences and to care for and love his family in the same way that Christ loved and cared for us, the

church.

A good example of this is when Jesus overturned the tables of the moneychangers in the church. This was one of the rare occasions when Christ showed anger—it angered Him that people were buying and selling in the temple of God because it distracted true worshippers from God. **“It is written, ‘My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.’ (Matthew 21:12-13)**

Christ Ones are the church, therefore, we are commanded to lead and manage our marriage according to certain God-given roles designed by the Master Himself. Are we managing our marriage to please God or to please ourselves? Wives who undermine their husband’s headship position or belittle their husbands are emotionally and spiritually harming the marriage significantly.

When Jesus overturned the tables and cast out the moneychangers from the church he essentially cleansed the church of its corruption. This is how a husband is to cleanse his marriage. **“Husbands love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it, that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word.” (Ephesians 5:25-26)**

Now, *washing of water by the word* means to manage your marriage according to the precepts and principles *of the word* of God. Husbands are to cleanse their marriage of impurities just as Jesus cleansed the church. This is where headship comes in. It’s not demand-ship, nor is it control-ship, but it is headship, which means “head or lead” of the family unit in a loving/self-sacrificial manner. Help your wife understand her role through your loving headship position.

**“That he might present it (the marriage) to himself as glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it would be holy and without blemish.” (Ephesians 5: 27)** Husbands, this is your job. This is not your wife’s job. Take back your God-given role and restore your marriage to God! Woman was created from the man’s rib, it was not the other way around. Adam was created first and then Eve was created as a helpmeet for Adam. Now bear with me on this—the true illustration of this is given below.

Does anyone have any idea why so many marriages are falling apart? Well, it is because we aren’t managing our marriages according to the Master Designer! God considers marriage VERY important and this is why He exploits *Christ and the church* as the living symbol of how marriage should be.

God portrays the relationship of Christ being the head of the church and His role as a loving protector and sacrifice of himself for her. And the church’s role (Christ Ones) are subject to Christ through repentance and receiving forgiveness. (We are subject unto Christ for salvation).

**Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands *in every thing.* (Ephesians 5:24)** Husbands and wives NEED to read and study the scriptures together, not just on Sunday. If you are ever confused about your God-given role in marriage, stop and ask yourself these questions. “How would Jesus run His church”? “Would Jesus want this done in his church”? “Am I acting like Christ when I do this?” “Am I keeping God’s commands for marriage if I did this”? Husbands are pastors of their own home.

Headship is a lifestyle and this lifestyle is what brings blessings and joys into the marriage relationship. But when we rebel against our God-given Christian role, whether it is the wife, the husband, or both, we corrupt our marriage. Our marriages need cleanse from this corruption through inner healing of ourselves and then restoration of our marriage to God!

Wives, your husband needs your help—he can’t do his job if you aren’t letting him, or if you are doing it for him. Let me tell you a little secret. The more we prance down on our men or belittle their manly hood we rebel against God’s will for us. We have a role in marriage too, and that role is not to take over our husband’s position. Let your husband cleanse your marriage *through the word* and give it back to God where it belongs!

When we rebel against our husband’s role in marriage it will not only harm our relationship with God but it will harm the sexual and emotional intimacy between husband and wife. People wonder why there is so much sexual and emotional unfaithfulness in marriage and this is why! Don’t let this happen to your marriage. A man needs his loving and feminine wife to allow him to do his job! It’s just the way he was built. The blessings will be a closer and more intimate relationship with your husband.

Men who take their God-given position in the home with importance will always want a loving helpmeet to be by his side, not a bossy and domineering woman. When you give your husband the reins and let him guide you in Christ’s ways, you will come to realize it was the way marriage was supposed to be. **“That ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.” (1 Corinthians 1:10)**

**“Wives submit yourselves unto your husbands, as unto the Lord. 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. (Ephesians 5:22-23)**

Until next Wednesday, May God bless you for His glory in His kingdom!  
Angie and Frank – Heaven Ministries

Heaven Ministries Copyright © 2008

To unsubscribe from this weekly marriage column, [reply here](#) with  
“**unsubscribe column**” in the subject line.

To unsubscribe from the monthly newsletter *Marriage Alive* [reply here](#) with  
“**unsubscribe newsletter**” in the subject line.