

This week's message was exclusively to wives. The discussion questions are addressed to wives but are intended to invite the input of their husbands. If you are not married, learn from and offer encouragement to those who are married in your group.

1) Wife, complement your husband. (v. 22-24)

List the ways you and your husband are different.

What strengths does your husband have that complement some of your weaknesses?

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Discuss this definition of submission from John Piper: *"Submission is the divine calling of a wife to honor and affirm her husband's leadership, and help to carry it through according to her gifts. It's the disposition to follow a husband's authority and an inclination to yield to his leadership. It is an attitude that says, "I delight for you to take the initiative in our family. I am glad when you take responsibility for things and lead with love. I don't flourish in the relationship when you are passive and I have to make sure the family works."*

What does your submission look like in your marriage? Share a recent example of how you demonstrated submission.

2) Wife, respect your husband. (v. 33)

Five ways a husband feels respected

- **Acceptance (Psalm 90:4)**

Does your husband feel like you are always trying to change him? Why or why not?

Have you given your husband freedom to fail without fear of criticism from you? If not, how could you communicate this to him?

How do you respond to your husband when he has failed?

- **Assistance (Genesis 2:13)**

What does your husband need help with?

Have the needs of your children taken a higher priority than the needs of your husband?

- **Admiration**

How have you communicated to your husband the things that you admire about him?

Do you communicate more words of affirmation or words of criticism?

- **Adaptability**

What recreational things does your husband enjoy? Do you do these things with him? Could you? Does your husband know you would be willing to do things with him that he enjoys?

- **Availability**

Read 1 Corinthians 7:3-5. How is that going? What is the danger of withholding physical intimacy?

A husband's love inspires a wife's respect.

A wife's respect inspires a husband's love.



Where do you find yourself on these cycles?

Additional Scripture

- Genesis 3:16
- Ester 1:16-18, 20
- 1Cor. 14:34
- Col. 3:18
- 1Tim. 1:11-12
- Titus 2:3-5
- 1Peter 3:1-6