

- I. God’s plan begins with mutual submission
  - A. Submission means to give up our rights to another person

“Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.” (Philippians 2:4)

- B. Submission occurs out of reverence for Christ
- II. God’s plan has instructions for wives to obey
  - A. Wives are called to submit their husbands

\*Cartoon

- 1. Submission means to encourage and accept the husband’s leadership in the home
  - 2. Submission to a husband is made possible by submission to Christ

“Wives, in the same way, be submissive to your husbands so that if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without talk by the behavior of their wives.” (I Peter 3:1)

- 3. Submission to a husband should look like the submission of the church to Christ
- B. Wives are called to respect their husbands
- III. God’s plan has instructions for husbands to obey
  - A. Husbands are called to take the primary responsibility for leadership in the home
    - 1. The husband’s leadership should model the leadership of Christ
  - B. Husbands are called to love their wives like Christ loved the church
    - 1. This means to love with an unselfish love

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking.” (I Corinthians 13:4-5)

- 2. This means to love with a sacrificial love

“This is how we know that love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.” ((I John 3:16)

- 3. This means to love with a purifying love
  - 4. This means to love with a caring love

- IV. God’s plan has instructions for the married couple

- A. Marriage is a sacred relationship created by God
- B. Marriage is designed for a man and woman to become one
- C. Marriage is designed to mirror the covenant relationship that God has with his church