Wives Submit to Your Husbands

Ephesians 5:21-33

Key Verse 22 “ Wives, submit yourself to your own husbands as you do to the Lord.

Our society may think that the word submission is a very offensive word. But actually submission is God’s wisdom and blessing to both husband and wife. There’s a lot of confusion and dissatisfaction with marriage because people have rejected God’s wisdom in marriage and marriage roles.

Verse 22 says, “Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord.” This is not man’s word but God’s word. Submission sounds like a bad word but it is actually from God. If a woman absolutely believes and submits to God and his word, she can accept this. But a woman who does not submit to God cannot submit to her husband.

I was not planning to get married because I was afraid that my marriage would look like my parents’ marriage. My Father **has many vices and** always hurt my mother physically. Men exercised their authority over women at that time treating them as their slave, so my mother never experienced being loved by my father. I thought that all men were like my father and so in High School I wanted to be a nun.

When I was asked to marry by faith without seeing a picture or meeting him, I was willing to accept it if he was a God-fearing man. Amazingly, when I was introduced to Tim the first question he asked me was “Are you willing to serve kid’s ministry?” instead of “Are you willing to marry me?” I was serving college ministry in the Philippines but when he asked me that question, I said “Yes.” **I was full of Holy Spirit and agreed to him unselfishly realizing that** **it was the beginning point that I submitted to him even though we were not married yet**. Because I had learned to submit to God in all things, I could submit to Tim as my husband, it was out of my love and trust in God, that I had learned through many struggles.

When Tim and I got married two years later, we thought we already knew each other very well, but we did not. We had really rough times in the first couple of months because of cultural differences. I was raised with 6 siblings, while Tim was an only child. I was kind of a naughty, joker and a happy woman but Tim was a very serious **man** **and looked grumpy all the time. I heard from others that when they saw Tim they couldn’t greet him to say hi because they were scared of him. It looked like he was carrying the burden of the world. He was annoyed when I made jokes with him and easily got irritated even though he didn’t tell me but I could see it on his face. I said I need to be serious like him but it looked like winter all the time and no fun. I honestly told him his problem then suddenly many things were changed. Surprisingly, he learned all my jokes that made me annoyed sometimes, he laughed a lot and became a happy man. In first year of our marriage, I spent money in buying things but he explained to me that we should not live like others acquiring many things and following the flow of this world. I realized that he is right I should listen to him. I repented for my sins of selfishness and becoming materialistic.**

I respected Tim as the head of our family. But often Tim argued with others because he is direct in his words and has a strong opinion. So, I tried to correct him but he became easily hurt and sensitive. So I just prayed and in those situations he would see my concerned look and examine himself and repent and he began to change. My look was more powerful and effective than my words. Submission to one another is not easy especially when you feel you have strong points while the other has mostly weak points. We learned to be humble and bear each other’s weaknesses and we each looked at ourselves before God and began to grow. I submitted to him and respected him as the head of our family, despite his weaknesses, as Christ is the head of the church who obeyed God and fully submitted himself to the will of God to die for our sins.

There were times that when we had a misunderstanding, I just kept quiet and didn’t want to talk about it. The funny thing was he wanted me to argue with him **so that I could express my feelings** but I was afraid that arguing will end up to fighting like my parents. When we had misunderstandings, each of us went into separate rooms until we could see our mistakes and understand each other and then we reconciled. We always practiced Eph 4:26, “Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry**.” I realized that sometimes arguing in a healthy way helped us to have a good relationship and good communication.** Now actually, we solve conflict pretty easily and we rarely fight **because there is no reason to fight.**

**Time goes so fast** **that** Tim and I have been married for almost 5 years next month and I’m proud to say that we have a happy marriage and a happy family. **It’s because we have a good relationship as a “couple” C-O-U-P-L-E. We learned C - CLOSENESS we became close as best friends that no one can separate us. This closeness leads to O - OPENNESS where we hide no secrets and we learned U - UNDERSTANDING each other’s point of view and bearing each other’s weaknesses. We both learned having P - PATIENCE through humbly coming to God in PRAYERS. We prayed and keep on praying for each other that we may continually grow as a good couple. We learned to L - LOVE each other unconditionally and LISTEN to each other very respectfully and LAUGH a lot all the time. We learned E - ENCOURAGING one another and being supportive when either of us got frustrated or discouraged. These are the secrets of having a happily ever after marriage.**

**I have no regrets in my decision to marry by faith because God heard my prayers and blessed me so much having a happy marriage and family. Christian marriage is really different from a worldly marriage. I am so blessed that I have a Christian husband who loves God above all and who submits to God’s headship and authority. I thank God for Tim who is leading our family to keep the way of the Lord. As a wife it is easy to submit to my husband because I learned first to submit to God. He loved me and accepted me for who I am and laid down his life for me as Jesus laid down his life for us. I respected his leadership and authority as the head of our family.**