

---

# *The Pursuit of Holiness*

## *Submission by Design*

---

*New Hope Community Church*  
*Dr. Jack Bracy, April 8, 2018*

### Everyone Is to Live Under Submission and The Authority of Someone Else

Jesus to The Father: *Mark 14:36, Hebrews 5:8*

Believers to God: *Proverbs 9:10, James 4:7*

Believers to Your Pastor/Elders: *Hebrews 13:17*

To Each Other in the Body of Christ: *Ephesians 5:22*

Husbands to Christ: *1 Corinthians 11:3*

Wives to their Husbands: *Ephesians 5:22*

Children to Parents: *Ephesians 6:1*

“Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands,  
so that even if some do not obey the word, they may  
be won without a word by the conduct of their  
wives, when they see your respectful and pure

conduct. Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear— but **let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God’s sight is very precious**. For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their own husbands, as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening.” *1 Peter 3:1–6, ESV*

Kingdom Behavior Is Different Than Worldly  
Behavior

Submission Was Designed by God to  
Fulfill His Purposes

Submission Is Not a One-Time Act. It Is a Continual  
Attitude,  
Which Becomes a Pattern of Behavior

“For God called you to do good, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example, and you must follow in his steps.” **1 Peter 2:21, NLT**

## **Why Submission?**

“For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord.” **Ephesians 5:22, NLT**

### 1. It Is Consistent with the Way God Designed Us

“So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.” **Ephesians 5:33, NLT**

Men Need to Feel Respected by Their Wives and  
Women Need to Feel Loved by Their Husbands

## 2. It's God's Plan to Keep Us Mutually Dependent Upon One Another

"But among the Lord's people, women are not independent of men, and men are not independent of women." **1 Corinthians 11:11, NLT**

Why Is the Divorce Rate So High Among Believers?  
We Haven't Moved from Me to We

## 3. It's God's Defense Against My Sin Nature

"So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves... Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives." **Galatians 5:16,25 NLT**

4. Submission in Marriage Is a Sign of  
Respect for Your Husband

“the wife must respect her husband.” *Ephesians*  
*5:33, NLT*

**Is Christian Marriage Supposed to Be...?**

Egalitarian

Complementarian

Mutually Submissive

The Wife Submits to Her Husband's Leadership  
The Husband Submits Himself to His Wife's Needs