

Submit to One Another

[Eph 5:21 ESV] 21 submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

I. Intro

- A. A key element in understanding unity in the church, proper order and submission
- B. When we yield our own will, for the sake of the mission, we find the peace of Christ
- C. The Challenge: **SUBMIT TO ONE ANOTHER AS A DEMONSTRATION OF THE LOVE WE HAVE FOR GOD**
- D. Submit as an example.
- E. Submit as a ministry
- F. Submit as the result of your reverence for God and belief in His plan!

II. Text

- A. Recap
- B. Submitting
 - 1. Greek: Hypotasso: be subject to
 - 2. To arrange the proper order
 - 3. To Yield to advice from another
 - 4. This word brings about an immediate rebellious response when misapplied:
 - a) The application here is to willfully submit because God is good.
 - b) **WILLFULLY** Allowing God's word and plan to put things in proper order
 - c) Many times we reject that which we do not understand:
 - (1) We misunderstand because it has been misused, abused, and weaponized
 - (2) We have seen **FORCED SUBMISSION, SHAMED SUBMISSION, and DEMANDED SUBMISSION**
 - (3) This is not a Biblical response to this word.
 - (4) Because we have seen bad examples of this sacred truth, we reject the actual truth...
 - 5. Willful Submission:
 - a) When you recognize you cannot save yourself, you willfully submit yourself to God's plan for salvation
 - b) When you find yourself Helpless and hopeless, you willfully submit yourself to God's strength and power
 - c) Willful submission is a state of mind that we can find ourselves in due to circumstances, but we should choose it rather than be forced into it.
- C. To one another
 - 1. The direction to our submission, **OTHERS**
 - 2. This is the challenge to do that which is going to build effectiveness in the church and blessing for the follower.
- D. Out of reverence for Christ
 - 1. The reason for our submission
 - 2. Christ's example before the Father is our example of submission
 - 3. As we revere Christ, we yield to Him and others.

III. Points

- A. Submission Brings Godliness
 - 1. To Submit to another is a demonstration of strength
 - 2. Willingly yielding yourself for the cause of Christ is clearly a mark of the Spirit's work in your life.
 - 3. Spiritual fruit manifest itself in the believer:
 - a) In selfless service
 - b) In purity of purpose
 - c) In appropriate actions
 - 4. We become more like God when we follow God's plan

5. Submission to others can be refusing to react harshly when they may have earned a harsh response.
- B. Submission Brings Unity
1. Ways we demonstrate unity in the church:
 - a) Submission to one another
 - b) Submission to baptism
 - c) Submission to the Lord's Supper
 - d) Submission to God
 2. When we choose submission to God's will and plan, we are choosing unity with God.
 3. When we choose unity with God, we choose submission to His plan for the church, and for peace for ourselves.
 4. When we have things in proper order, we find peace that only Christ can provide:
 - a) When we allow our God to put things in His proper order, we find His blessing.
 - b) We will never find peace with God our our relationships if we do not learn to submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.
- C. Submission Brings Blessing
1. When you serve in the proper order and plan of God you find the blessing of God
 2. God has a plan, God's plan is best, God's plan is blessed.
 3. We do not have to come up with a new plan, we have to submit ourselves to God's plan.
 4. Submit to God's plan for salvation: Substitutionary Atonement
 5. Submit to God's plan for obedience: Baptism, and a step every day
 6. Submit to God's plan for a reminder of His promise: The Lord's supper
 - a) Submit to this relationship
 - b) Submit to God, and find joy.
- IV. Close: Lord's Supper