

“Mutual Submission”

A COUNTERCULTURAL APPROACH TO HAVE A GREAT MARRIAGE AND RELATIONSHIPS... AND TO SAVE THE WORLD

I. We All Have Wishes, Hopes, & Dreams

- They can become expectations
- When wishes, hopes, and dreams become expectations, “WE” collide
- When “I’s” collide “WE” loses!

II. Countercultural Approach

You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ *Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.* 1 Peter 2:9-10 (NIV) ¹¹ *Dear brothers and sisters, you are only visitors here. Since your real home is in heaven, I beg you to keep away from the evil pleasures of this world; they are not for you, for they fight against your very souls.* ¹² *Be careful how you behave among your unsaved neighbors; for then, even if they are suspicious of you and talk against you, they will end up praising God for your good works when Christ returns.* ¹³ **“Submit yourselves for the Lord’s sake.”** 1 Peter 2:11-13 (TLB)

Submit...

- To those in authority, elected officials, the government (2:13-17)
- To your boss, supervisor (2:18-20)
- In the home (3:1-8)

Wives, in the same way submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, ² when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. 1 Peter 3:1-2 (NIV)

Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. 1 Peter 3:8

- *To one another out of reverence for Christ.* Ephesians 5:21 [Mutual Submission]

III. Happy couples know...

- He/she owes me nothing! I owe him/her everything! **“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”** Eph. 4:32
- It is a “submission competition”, being the first to race to the end of the line
- It is living countercultural in order to “win over unsaved neighbors”
- The relationship is ultimately about having the mindset/attitude of Christ

Don’t push your way to the front; don’t sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don’t be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand. Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself.

Philippians 2:3-5 (MSG)

