

**22** Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. **23** For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. **24** Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands... **31** "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."—Ephesians 5:22–24, 31

**Submission** is mutual, not a one way \_\_\_\_\_

1 Peter 2:13 to govt; 1 Peter 5:5, Hebrews 13:17 to spiritual leaders

**Scope** is to husband only, not of an entire \_\_\_\_\_

Colossians 3:18; 1 Peter 3:1; Ephesians 5:33

**Analogy:** wife respecting husband mirrors Church & Christ, vv. 23–24

**Purpose** of mutual submission is \_\_\_\_\_, v. 31

### Discussion questions and application of God's Word:

- I'll let my spouse know today that "I'm grateful you make it relatively easy for me to submit to you" / "I'm grateful you respect my authority."
- How does a wife respect or submit to an undeserving husband?
- Does submission mean the husband unilaterally makes decisions?
- Does submission imply inferiority? Wife's silence? Why/why not?
- Are specific tasks in marriage gender-related? Any Scriptural basis?
- Is there a limit to a wife's submission? What is it?
- What if a wife is a better natural leader than her husband is? Must she still submit, even if he agrees to let her lead?