

Getting to Know You Questions:

1. What's one household "battle" you've given up on winning (like how to load the dishwasher or the right way to fold towels)?
2. When you and your spouse (or a friend) both say, "You go first," how do you figure out who goes first?

Into the Bible Questions: Read 1 Peter 3:1-6

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. 3 Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. 4 Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. 5 For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to adorn themselves. They submitted themselves to their own husbands, 6 like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her lord. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.

1. What was something from the passage or sermon that surprised you, helped you, confused you, or bothered you?
2. What does this passage tell us about God? People? Living to please God?
3. How does Peter's command for wives to submit "so that some may be won without a word" differ from the cultural idea of submission?
4. Why is conduct often more persuasive than words in pointing others to Jesus?
5. What does it look like to "win someone over" through godly behavior rather than emotional manipulation or nagging?
6. How does culture define beauty versus how God defines it?
7. Why do you think it's easy to focus on physical beauty but difficult to cultivate spiritual beauty?
8. How does a "gentle and quiet spirit" actually demonstrate strength and confidence in God?
9. What can we learn from Sarah's example about trusting God in marriage?
10. How does fear affect the way we relate to our spouse or others close to us?
11. How can putting your hope in God free you from trying to control your relationships?
12. How might respect and honor build intimacy and trust in a marriage?

For Extra Study, Read Ephesians 5:21-24

1. *Paul begins by saying, "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." How does this verse shape the way we should understand the following instructions about wives and husbands?*
2. *What does it mean for a wife to submit "as to the Lord"? How does this mindset keep the focus on Jesus rather than on who deserves submission?*
3. *What needs to change in your life so that you can live this out?*
4. *Not down any insights, questions, or key observations.*

Application Questions

1. If you're married, what are some practical ways you can make following this passage easier for your spouse?
2. How can single people prepare their hearts now to live out godly submission and leadership later?
3. How could you encourage someone in your life (spouse, friend, or family member) through your conduct rather than correction?
4. What is one practical step you could take to stop "nagging with your words or emotions" this week?
5. For wives: How can you intentionally become your spouse's "Chief Encouragement Officer"?
6. What are some phrases or actions that communicate respect in your relationship?
7. For wives, what does it look like to give your spouse space to lead while still using your strengths and gifts?
8. For wives: How does remembering Jesus' submission to the Father help you live out biblical submission?
9. For wives: What fears most often hold you back from trusting God in your relationships?
10. For wives: When disagreement happens, how can you model Christlike trust and respect instead of fear or control?
11. What is one way you could invest more time in your *inner* beauty (spiritual habits, character formation)?
12. What are some signs that you might be relying too much on appearance or performance for value?
13. Who in your life models a "gentle and quiet spirit" that is strong in faith? How can you learn from them this week?

How can we support and pray for each other this week?