

“Subjecting yourselves one to another...”

Ephesians 5:21

Walk worthily of the calling wherewith ye were called.” (4:1) “Walk” used 6 times in

Ephesians, emphasizing our life in Christ:

- Good works of God. 2:10.
- Worthily of our calling. 4:1 (Colossians 1:10–12).
- No longer as Gentiles (convinced of the futility of living in sin). 4:17.

Ephesians 5:1–21: *Practical applications* of being new people in Christ. (5:2; 5:8; 5:15)

Walk in...

- ▶ **Love, Ephesians 5:1-2**
 - Imitate Christ in sacrifice and purity to please God and be accepted
- ▶ **Light, Ephesians 5:3-14**
 - Reject self-indulgence and bear the fruit of the Spirit
- ▶ **Wisdom, Ephesians 5:15-21**
 - Careful in all things to do the will of God (time, worship, thanks)

“Subjecting yourselves one to another...”

hypotássæ: “to arrange under, to subordinate; to subject, put in subjection: (Thayer)

- ▶ The responsibilities of wives – Ephesians 5:22–24
- ▶ The responsibilities of husbands – Ephesians 5:25–33
- ▶ The responsibilities of children – Ephesians 6:1–3
- ▶ The responsibilities of fathers – Ephesians 6:4
- ▶ The responsibilities of servants – Ephesians 6:5–8
- ▶ The responsibilities of masters – Ephesians 6:9

“Subjecting yourselves one to another...”

The responsibilities of wives – Ephesians 5:22–24

- ▶ Submit. cf. 5:21; 1 Corinthians 11:3; 1 Timothy 2:9–13; 1 Peter 3:1–6
- ▶ Rule the household. 1 Timothy 5:14
- ▶ Industrious. Proverbs 31:13–24
- ▶ Love husband & children. Titus 2:2–3
- ▶ Place of importance. Genesis 2:18–24; Proverbs 18:22; cf. Proverbs 21:9

“Subjecting yourselves one to another...”

The responsibilities of husbands – Ephesians 5:25–33

- ▶ Love their wives as Christ loved the church.
- ▶ Provide leadership. cf. Colossians 3:19; 1 Peter 3:7
- ▶ Provide physically. 1 Timothy 5:4–5, 8; 2 Thessalonians 3:6–12; Mark 7:8–13

“Subjecting yourselves one to another...”

The responsibilities of husbands – Ephesians 5:25–33

- ▶ Nourish: “to provide (someone or something) with food and other things that are needed to live, be healthy, etc.” (Webster) NT:2282
- ▶ Cherish: “Primarily means ‘to heat, to soften by heat’; then, ‘to keep warm,’ as of birds covering their young with their feathers, Deuteronomy 22:6, Septuagint; metaphorically, ‘to cherish with tender love, to foster with tender care’” (Vine’s Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)

7

“Subjecting yourselves one to another...”

- A husband exercises his authority with love. (Ephesians 5:33a)
- A wife submits to her husband with respect. (Ephesians 5:33b)

8

Ephesians 5:22-33

Husband and Wife
(5:22, 25, 33)

MARRIAGE

Christ and the Church
(5:32)

9

“Subjecting yourselves one to another...”

The responsibilities of children – Ephesians 6:1–3

- ▶ Obey. Colossians 3:20; Proverbs 6:20; Romans 1:30
 - “A child left to himself causeth shame to his mother.” Proverbs 29:15
- ▶ Learn. Proverbs 13:1; 15:5,10; 1 Kings 12; Lam. 3:27
- ▶ Honor. Ephesians 6:2; 1 Timothy 5:4; Matthew 15:4–6

10

“Subjecting yourselves one to another...”

The responsibilities of fathers – Ephesians 6:4

- ▶ DON’T provoke children to wrath. (i.e., discipline without love)
- ▶ DO bring them up in the “*training and admonition*” of the Lord (NKJV).
- ▶ World’s view:
 - Discipline without love (abuse).
 - Love without discipline (permissiveness).
- ▶ God’s view: Hebrews 12:5–11; Proverbs 13:24; 19:18; 29:15,17; Proverbs 23:13–14

11

“Subjecting yourselves one to another...”

The responsibilities of servants – Ephesians 6:5–8; cf. Colossians 3:18–4:1

- ▶ Obedience with fear and trembling.
- ▶ Obedience in sincerity of heart, as unto Christ.
- ▶ Obedience with good will, as to the Lord.
- ▶ Obedience with an understanding that the Lord is an impartial judge.

12

“Subjecting yourselves one to another...”

The responsibilities of masters – Ephesians 6:9

- ▶ *“do the same things unto them”*
 - with fear and trembling.
 - in sincerity of heart, as unto Christ.
 - with good will, as to the Lord.
 - with an understanding that the Lord is an impartial judge.
- ▶ *“forebear threatening”*

13

Conclusion:

“Walk worthily of the calling wherewith ye were called.” (4:1) “Walk” used 6 times in Ephesians, emphasizing our life in Christ:

- a. Good works of God. 2:10.
- b. Worthily of our calling. 4:1 (Colossians 1:10–12).
- c. No longer as Gentiles (convinced of the futility of living in sin). 4:17.

Ephesians 5:1–21: *Practical applications* of being new people in Christ. (5:2; 5:8; 5:15)

14

Conclusion:

“Walk worthily of the calling wherewith ye were called” (4:1). Seen in how we treat each other.

- ▶ Submitting to God and others in authority.
- ▶ Exercising authority with sacrificial love.
- ▶ Obeying those placed over us by God.
- ▶ Development through training & admonition.
- ▶ Rendering service that is sincere, not hypocritical.
- ▶ Exercising authority with justice & fairness.

15